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Yours today – a short break in the Brussels boulevards
Don't forget your passport, p13

20p

THE TIMES

No. 65,216 THURSDAY MARCH 16 1995

White House seeks to mend fences

BY MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON AND PHILIP WEBSTER

'Decommissioning of the vast arsenals of paramilitaries must begin now'

THE Clinton Administration initiated efforts yesterday to mend its rift with Britain as it called for an immediate start to the decommissioning of the IRA's arsenal.

Adopting the British Government's line almost word for word, Richard Holbrooke, assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs, said that "non-violent constitutional parties cannot be expected to sit at a table with the political representatives of paramilitary groups who have retained the right to return to violence if they do not achieve their goals". It was confirmed in Washington last night that the Holbrooke statement had been approved by the White House.

Mr Holbrooke's remarks, welcomed in Downing Street as an important advance in the American stance, came as yet another day went by without the long-awaited telephone conversation between John Major and Mr Clinton. They are expected to talk soon, but officials said that it was not certain that the call would take place before Mr Adams goes to a St Patrick's Day party at the White House tomorrow.

As the apparent difficulty in fixing up the discussion between the Prime Minister and the President descended into farce, Tory MPs voiced satisfaction that Mr Major's message appeared to be getting home in Washington.

Mr Holbrooke said Sinn Fein and the loyalist parties in Northern Ireland should "immediately begin serious discussions on disarmament" and continued: "Decommissioning of the vast arsenals of loyalist and nationalist paramilitaries must be mutual, balanced and across the board. It must begin now and not await the end of the talks."

Mr Holbrooke, appearing before the House international operations committee on Capitol Hill, said President Clinton had taken a risk letting Mr Adams raise funds in America despite Britain's objections and wanted the Sinn Fein leader to reciprocate. "The ball is now in Sinn Fein's court." Mr Holbrooke and the State Department had disagreed with Mr Clinton's decision to let Mr Adams raise funds but officials in Washington interpreted his remarks as a sign of concern within the Administration that it had given Mr Adams all he wanted but had received little in return.

British officials were naturally delighted by Mr Holbrooke's intervention, which reflected what Anthony Lake, Mr Clinton's National Security Adviser, had told Mr Adams privately during a 30-minute meeting on Tuesday. Downing Street sources have been playing down differences between Mr Major and Mr Clinton. Officials said yesterday they would speak "as soon as they can, when their two respective diaries match".

Today Mr Adams will enjoy the biggest prize of Mr Clinton's munificence when he meets the President at the House Speaker's traditional St Patrick's Day lunch, completing his journey from pariah to statesman. The media will be allowed to record neither that event nor Mr Clinton receiving Mr Adams at the White House St Patrick's Day reception tomorrow.

Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, argued in Washington last week that it would be "dismaying to about 50 million [British] people to have Mr Adams shaking hands with the President of the greatest democracy on earth", but even in America the President's support for Mr Adams is beginning to stir controversy.

In a stinging editorial *The Wall Street Journal* drew a contrast between the way that Mr Clinton was "lionising" Mr Adams and "stiffing the Prime Minister of England" while barring Lee Teng-hui, the democratically elected President of Taiwan, from America for fear of offending China. It said Mr Clinton was doing this because "there must be something in it somewhere for him".

☐ A loyalist leader with links to Protestant paramilitaries will meet President Clinton at the White House tomorrow at the St Patrick's Day reception. Gary McMichael, leader of the Ulster Democratic Party, which has links to the Ulster Defence Association, said his trip to Washington was designed to counter Sinn Fein propaganda in America.

Leading article, page 17

Recovery may come too late, admits Clarke

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND PHILIP BASSETT

BRITAIN'S "feel-good" factor could be delayed until the next election in spite of improving economic prospects, Kenneth Clarke warned yesterday.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said the Government would have to carry on delivering rising prosperity for another two years at least before people felt more secure and more comfortable.

Mr Clarke's remarks came on a day when encouraging economic figures for the Government on unemployment and retail sales were clouded by news of 1,300 job losses in the defence industry at British Aerospace.

However, that will be balanced today when the Japanese car maker Toyota announces the expected creation of 1,500 jobs as it doubles production.

Seasonally adjusted unemployment fell by 27,400 in February to 2.36 million, and retail sales rose 1.2 per cent over the previous month.

Mr Clarke's comments appeared to accept what many Conservative MPs fear — that the Government may not reap the political benefits of recovery in time for the election.

Labour exploited the remarks last night as "an astonishing admission that the Government's policies were not working". But Mr Clarke's advisers insisted that he was putting no time limit on the recovery of voter confidence in the Government's management of the economy.

However, his words were a reminder of last year's embarrassing leaked memorandum from John Maples, the Tory Deputy Chairman, to John Major, warning that living standards would fall in the run-up to the election.

The absence of a "feel-good" factor is one of the reasons for pressure on the Chancellor from the Tory Right for tax cuts in the next two Budgets.

But Mr Clarke, interviewed yesterday on *The World at One* on BBC Radio 4, promised to take whatever action necessary to keep inflation in check, and said he would not cut taxes before it was prudent to do so.

"If I can afford tax cuts, as a Conservative Chancellor, I'm only too willing and eager to do so. But I'm not going to undo the good work I've had by having tax cuts until, firstly, we have got spending and borrowing under control and until it is good for the economy," he said.

Mr Clarke said of yesterday's figures: "Potentially, it's the best combination we've seen for a quarter of a century, 30 years, and we're the only European country that's combining a fall in unemployment with the steady growth which is ahead of all the others. But I've always said we've got to make it last. It's got to be sustained."

Ministers were delighted with both sets of economic figures. At 8.4 per cent, unemployment is at its lowest level for three years. It has fallen 338,000 over the past 12 months and by 607,000 since it peaked at the end of 1992.

But economists were sceptical about the 1.2 per cent increase in retail sales volumes in February over the previous month. Following figures from the CBI employers' organisation suggesting a slump in High Street sales, City analysts emphasised that sales volumes over a three-month period were just 0.1 per cent up on the previous quarter.

They said this figure — usually seen as a better guide to the trend — showed that retail sales were flat, confirming that there had been virtually no growth in sales volumes over the last eight months.

Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, said of Mr Clarke's interview: "This is an astonishing admission by the Chancellor, who clearly has no confidence in his own economic policy. He is admitting that people cannot feel good while they have been betrayed, with living standards falling and two more taxes still to come."

Toyota employs about 1,900 in the UK, mainly at its factory at Burnaston near Derby. Today's expansion is expected to create a further 500 jobs on the production line and another 1,000 in other areas of the industry.

The company is planning to build a second model alongside its current Carina E mid-range saloons, which could mean a significant expansion

Continued on page 2, col 4

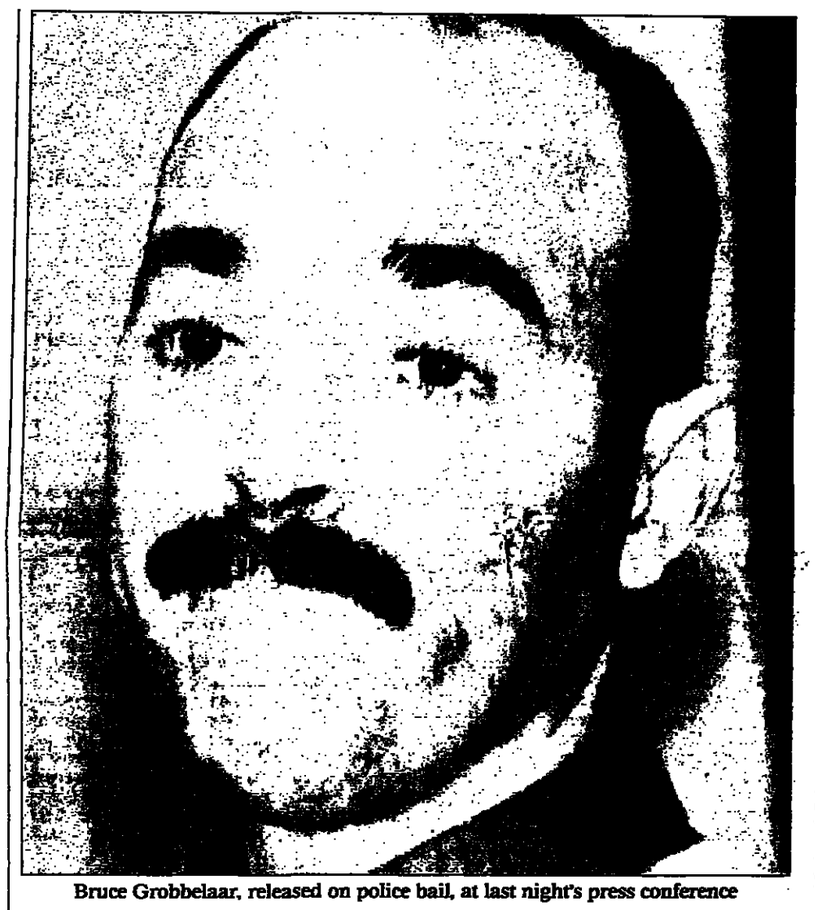
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Jobless falling, page 22



P & O chief 'will work with Blair'

LORD Sterling of Plaistow (above), chairman of P & O and one of Baroness Thatcher's staunchest City supporters, said yesterday that he would work with a Labour government (Arthur Leathley writes).

"Any sensible government that looks after our interests, we would work with," he said. He would be happy to work with Tony Blair if Labour had power.



Bruce Grobbelaar, released on police bail, at last night's press conference

Soccer stars freed on police bail

BY LIN JENKINS, JOHN GOODBODY AND STEWART TENDLER

BRUCE GROBBELAAR, John Fashanu and Hans Segers, the Premier League players arrested by detectives investigating allegations of match fixing, last night protested their innocence as they were released on police bail pending further inquiries.

Speaking through David Hewitt, his solicitor, at a press conference, Grobbelaar protested his innocence. The goalkeeper, who was omitted by Southampton for a crucial relegation match with West Ham last night, said nothing directly about the allegations, but thanked his club and fans for their support.

Mr Hewitt said: "Bruce has always strenuously denied the allegations ... he maintains that denial now as emphatically as he has ever done. He has not been involved in any criminal act whether alone or with other people."

Grobbelaar also criticised the police for the manner of his arrest. He was taken from his home in a dawn raid on Tuesday morning in front of a crowd of media representatives. Mr Hewitt said he would be asking Hampshire police for an explanation.

He said Grobbelaar, who was first interviewed about throwing matches in return for cash last year, would have gone voluntarily to a police station if asked. His passports had been taken away, but he had been assured that they would be returned. He needed them to play in the Africa Nations Cup next month.

After more than a day of questioning police also released on bail Heng Suan Lim, a Malaysian businessman based in London, and Melissa Kassa-Mapsi, Fashanu's girlfriend. All those released had been held after a four month investigation into claims that players took bribes from betting syndicates in the Far East to fix big matches.

Bookmaker held, page 5

Labour to ditch stand against opt-out schools

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR is planning to ditch its long-standing opposition to grant maintained schools next week in a key reversal of a policy on which the party fought the last election.

In what will be seen as one of the most important shifts of Tony Blair's leadership, David Blunkett will outline the party's plans to keep grant-maintained schools under a new "framework of democratic control".

The Shadow Education Secretary will use his speech at the Association of Heads of Grant-Maintained Schools next Wednesday to reassure head teachers that opt-out schools will continue to be able to run their own affairs.

He will say that the party has no intention of returning the management of the 1,030 grant-maintained schools to local authority control. Under the new proposals councils will at best have an arms-length supervisory role.

Labour is also proposing to give local authority schools greater freedoms in an attempt to put all schools on a similar footing. Although Labour will abolish the central funding agency which allocates cash to grant-maintained schools, it will ensure that schools retain responsibility for their budgets. Opt-out schools will also continue to have the freedom to employ all their own ancillary staff, such as caterers and cleaners.

However, Mr Blunkett will signal the end of special favours for self-governing schools. He will spell out the principles behind any new proposals. They will no longer be given extra funding and they will not be able to select pupils on ability. Over the past few years grant-maintained schools have had sigificantly more capital resources than other state schools.

Mr Blunkett is finalising a new policy document on education which will be published in June and put to the party conference in October. The proposals are expected to give further details of the "new framework of democratic control", to ensure greater accountability for opted-out schools.

The new policy is also expected to spell out greater freedom for all state schools. At present local education authorities distribute 85 per cent of their resources to schools and keep 15 per cent for inspection and advisory services and special needs. Labour is expected to propose that the amount handed out be increased to more than 90 per cent. Grant-maintained schools are now allocated 100 per cent of their funding.

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MPs see red over plane that falls to bits

BY MICHAEL EVANS DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

MEMBERS of Parliament expressed astonishment yesterday after Ministry of Defence officials admitted to "disastrous" cost overruns and delays of up to eight years in developing three battlefield spying systems for the Army. These have already cost more than £250 million and are still years away from being ready for service.

One of the projects, called Astor, an airborne surveillance system, is so far behind schedule that there is still no decision on the type of aircraft to carry it after 15 years of deliberations, the MPs heard.

The story of the systems — Astor, Cobra and Phoenix — caused such shocked reactions at a Commons Defence Committee hearing yesterday that one MP referred to the Phoenix project, developed by GEC-Marconi, as "worse than disastrous".

The MPs demanded to know whether the company had learnt any lessons from past defence procurement horrors like the Nimrod airborne early warning system, also developed by GEC-Marconi, which was cancelled eight years ago after nearly £1 billion had been spent.



The Phoenix spy plane

Phoenix, a remotely-controlled spy aircraft which is costing £227 million, crash-lands so heavily that bits fall off. By the time it is ready for service, it will be eight years behind schedule.

Frank Cook, Labour MP for Stockton North, claimed Phoenix was known inside GEC as "the bugger-off" because it had a habit of not returning after being launched.

The MPs were told that even though the Phoenix project was a fixed-price contract, the MoD had agreed to pay GEC-Marconi an extra £16 million. Winston Churchill, Tory MP for Davyhulme, said: "I find it quite fantastic the system can be eight years late, not come up to specification, and yet you pay significantly more taxpayers' money to the contractor."

Dennis Maines, MoD director-general of guided weapons and electronic systems, said a review of the Phoenix programme was now nearly finished and ministers would have to decide whether to scrap the programme.

The third system, Cobra, is a counter-battery radar system. The original specifications were issued in 1983; it is five years behind schedule.

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Uncouth ministers give questioners a rude awakening

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

On Tuesday, when Lord Callaghan of Cardiff suggested to a Commons committee that better manners among MPs might not come amiss, this column was unconvinced. I like a bit of rough and tumble. But environment questions yesterday shook me. Maybe Callaghan is right. Ministers *are* becoming incredibly rude.

It was Sir Paul Beresford (C, Croydon Central) who started the trend. He had been asked about "urban regeneration" by Margaret Hodge (Lab, Barking). Ms Hodge was previously leader of Islington Council and very much "new" Labour — all smart skirts, original fireplaces and modern opinions — and something about her caused Sir Paul to flip. He was reddening even as she rose to complain that we needed to train the unemployed for "if and when another economic boom" arrives.

"So you can get another nanny!" shouted someone on the Tory side. This was rude enough. Then up jumped Sir Paul and accused Ms Hodge of "not urban regeneration, but urban degeneration".

It caused puzzlement. More urbane than urban, Ms Hodge does not look at all degenerate. No doubt Beresford was referring to her policies as a council leader, but this loose talk at the dispatch box really will not do. Sir Paul is a dentist but that is no excuse for bandying about terms like "degenerate". It is unnerving.

Uncouthness from this minister, however, paled by comparison with the next, Robert Atkins. "Out of the way, you lot," he barked at his ministerial comrades as he shouldered his way to the table for the next question.

It was about contaminated land. A well-meaning if unpronounceable Welsh MP, Cynog Dafis (Plaid Cymru, Ceredigion & Pembroke N), was worried about the sites of former gasworks, whose land was poisoned. It seemed a reasonable concern.

"Well," said Atkins, "there's quite a lot of gas produced in Wales, of which the hon member is a classic example."

I ask you! Atkins sat back for the next question, to give his ministerial comrade, David Curry, a turn at throwing custard pies at the other side. As Labour's environment spokesman, Frank Dobson, rose to complain that the Government gave too generous a grant to Tory Westminster Council, the minister reached for pie.

Mr Curry has a good mind and terrible vocal cords. Charging around in the Curry brain is a multitude of clever things he wants us to know, but it all comes out as a sort of demented squeak. Westminster *was* a deprived area, he yelped. Dobson should walk a little further than the Houses of Parliament. He *would see* poverty. And if Dobson *didn't* know that, then (and here the yelp rose to a screech) "it shows he knows *damn* little about local government!" Mr Curry sat down, panting.

There was a shocked intake of breath. What a rude word! MPs glanced sidelong at Madam Speaker as little boys might glance at Mum, to see if she was going to smack him. She didn't.

It took the refined tones of Lady Olga Maitland (C, Sutton & Cheam) to remind MPs of the proprieties. Lady O, in what always looks like a Chanel suit, and in a voice of cut glass, told the House that "there's no reason for anyone to sleep rough on the streets of London".

It is very hard to imagine Lady Olga *being* on the streets of London, let alone sleeping rough. Or indeed waking rough. Or indeed doing anything rough. She forbore yesterday to remind MPs that the doors of London's homeless shelters, like the doors of the Ritz, are open to all.

Tories join Labour on family laws

Conservative MPs joined Labour members of the all-party Commons employment select committee yesterday in calling for widespread new employment rights for parents.

Ministers were said to be furious that the Tories endorsed the recommendation for an extension of maternity leave and five days' paternity leave.

Tories on the committee accepted that some of its proposals were against Government policy. David Nicholson (C, Taunton) emphasised the unanimity of its proposals, but said some differences with "current" Government policy were inevitable, and added: "Government policy can change."

Climbers killed

The bodies of two climbers were recovered from Lochnagar in Grampian yesterday. The pair, who had been well-equipped and roped together, are believed to have fallen from close to the summit of the mountain.

Mellor job offer

David Mellor, the MP and former Cabinet minister who faces deselection by his local Conservative association on Friday, is considering a £200,000 offer to become a presenter on the new station Talk Radio UK.

Press penalty

National newspapers could be forced to award victims of press intrusion compensation of up to £5,000 under proposals being discussed by the Government. The scheme is expected to be outlined in a White Paper.

Beatles get back

Paul McCartney confirmed yesterday that he and the two other surviving members of The Beatles have recorded several new songs together. They will be released on record later this year, 25 years after the group broke up.

Lib Dem choice

Veronica Linklater, wife of the Times columnist Magnus Linklater, has been chosen by the Liberal Democrats to fight the Perth and Kinross by-election. Her grandfather was the former Liberal Party leader Sir Archibald Sinclair.

Prize for Pinter

Harold Pinter, once praised by Noel Coward for using language "marvellously well", won the David Cohen British Literature Prize last night, a £30,000 award that recognises a lifetime's achievement for literature.

Conservative Right returns to the battles of the 1980s

Aitken lends support to nursery place vouchers

BY NICHOLAS WOOD AND JOHN O'LEARY

PLANS for parents to be given vouchers to pay for nursery education received the support yesterday of Jonathan Aitken, the Treasury Chief Secretary, who highlighted what he called the system's "powerful attractions".

In a rare public intervention in the education debate, Mr Aitken opened a London conference by outlining two possible means of implementing the Prime Minister's pledge to offer provision for every four-year-old. He saw a bidding process for new nursery places as the main alternative to vouchers.

Although he denied that he was making policy and also pointed to the potential pitfalls of vouchers, his presence at the conference on funding nursery schools, organised by the Centre for Policy Studies (CPS), was a signal that the Conservative Right is preparing to refight some of the battles of the 1980s. Almost no senior minister has mentioned vouchers since Kenneth Clarke, when he was Education Secretary, ruled them out days before Margaret Thatcher was deposed in 1990.

The conference, attended by civil servants from the Treasury and Education Department, was held against the background of a Whitehall battle over how to pay for John Major's offer of a nursery place for every four-year-old. Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, is resisting pressure from Mr Major to give serious consideration to the voucher option.

Tory MPs joined the fight yesterday with Tim Yeo, a former minister, saying that it would be "appalling" if vouchers were to be rejected in favour of giving more money for nurseries to local councils. They were already exploiting the Children's Act to drive private nurseries and playgroups out of business.

Edward Lister, leader of the Tory borough of Wandsworth, said that vouchers should "start in the kindergarten" and that his council was prepared to run a pilot scheme. Vouchers could later be extended to the years of compulsory education.

Strong public backing for vouchers for school-age children came from Lord Skidelsky, chairman of the Social Market Foundation which, with the CPS, has been asked by 10 Downing Street to submit proposals for the next Tory manifesto. He said that vouchers were the only answer to the riddle of how to reconcile pressure for more spending on education and health with the public's appetite for lower taxes.

Lord Skidelsky, Professor of Political Economy at Warwick University, said vouchers would enable parents to top up their spending on education. This was the only feasible remedy for the current "incredibly inflexible" system under which parents either put up with their local state school or paid twice over by going private.

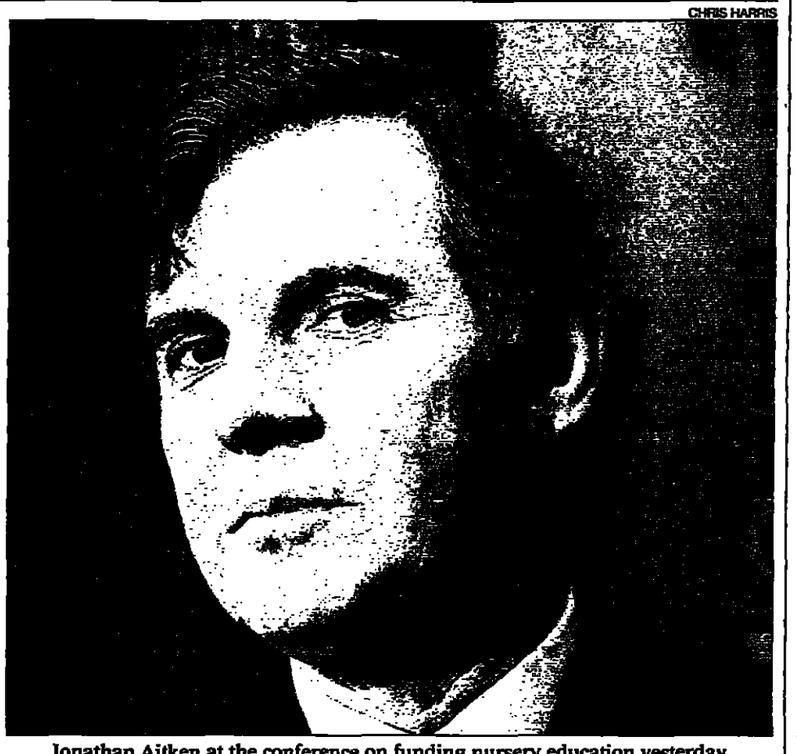
State secondary schools should be allowed to charge a maximum annual fee of £3,000 and parents should be given a voucher worth the average sum for each pupil spent by the State — £2,500. The £500 difference would be met by parents.

"That is a good Conservative principle. It enlists on behalf of education every parent's natural desire to get the best possible education for their child . . . You get a way of increasing the national education budget more than you could increase by the tax system alone. It would be good for teachers and for the economy because there would be real cuts in the tax burden."

Mr Aitken said he knew that Mrs Shephard would not appreciate a "heavy-handed" Chief Secretary pre-empting a decision on nursery funding, which is expected by the early summer. A voucher might be difficult to administer and push up public spending by making taxpayers responsible for fees currently met by parents of children at private schools or nurseries.

David Blunkett, Labour's education spokesman, claimed that Mrs Shephard had been sidelined as Mr Major and Mr Aitken developed the pet proposals of the right-wing think-tanks.

CHRIS HARRIS



Jonathan Aitken at the conference on funding nursery education yesterday

Seatbelts to be compulsory for minibus-trip pupils

BY JONATHAN PRYNN, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

CHILDREN travelling in minibuses or coaches on school trips will be required by law to wear seatbelts from summer next year, the Government said yesterday.

Thousands of school minibuses will have to be fitted with lap-belts for passengers as a result of the announcement in the Commons by Brian Mawhinney, the Transport Secretary.

The decision was welcomed as an important first step by road safety groups and teacher unions, but came under fire for not going far enough. The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents said that teachers needed professional training in driving minibuses before taking to the roads.

"Imagine the public outcry if airline pilots, train or coach drivers were untrained and unregulated," Dave Rogers, the society's road safety adviser, said. "Driving a minibus full of children is a stressful and responsible task, which requires specific skills."

The campaign for compulsory belts followed a series of minibus and coach accidents in 1993 in which 16 children died. In the worst crash, 12 children and their teacher from Hagley School in the Midlands were killed.

In a Commons written reply, Dr Mawhinney said parents were right to be concerned about children travelling unprotected in minibuses and coaches. He added: "But it is important to put this issue into perspective. The fact is that in terms of the number of passenger miles travelled, these vehicles are twice as safe as cars."

Michael Meacher, the Shadow Transport Secretary, condemned the "totally unacceptable delay" in implementing the new rules, which he said should be introduced for all minibuses, not just those used to carry children.

John Askew, road safety officer for Hereford and Worcester, which covers Hagley School, said: "Seatbelts are to be welcomed, but what they don't do is prevent accidents. We would like to see some compulsory scheme to asses people who drive these minibuses."

The new rules are unlikely to come into force before next summer to give minibus and coach operators at least 12 months to comply.

After-school clubs plead for funding

BY BEN PRESTON, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

MORE than 1,000 after-school clubs for children whose parents are at work face closure unless ministers abandon plans to end funding next year, it was claimed yesterday.

The Kids' Club Network said that the £45 million government initiative to establish 3,000 childcare clubs to help working mothers had been a success, but a ministerial decision to end funding in April 1996 after three years would condemn 1,000 clubs to closure and a further 1,000 to a struggle for survival. Anne Longfield, director of the charity, said: "The Government must act responsibly and organise an ordered retreat by phasing out funding over a period of five years, not just turn off the tap."

The clubs, which charge parents about £20 a week to mind primary school children from 3pm to 6pm, were started because after-school and holiday childcare is the single biggest barrier to women returning to work.

The Conservatives made a commitment in their 1992 election manifesto to encourage clubs in community centres, church halls and schools. Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, awarded the £45 million grant when she was Employment Secretary.

She praised the initiative yesterday and said that it had opened a multitude of paths towards good quality and lasting provision. She acknowledged that the clubs were concerned about their future but said that a policy review by the Employment Department would continue.

Recovery may come too late, admits Clarke

Continued from page 1

of its Derby plant from its planned production of 200,000 cars a year to 300,000 or more. The move will follow an announcement yesterday that Ford, the US-owned car maker, is to build Japanese cars at its factory at Dagenham, Essex, from next year with the Mazda car company.

Dagenham, Ford's biggest and oldest plant in the UK, will build 25,000 cars a year for Mazda, in which Ford has a 25 per cent stake. The deal is not only a vote of confidence in Dagenham's 4,200 workers, but will also result in extra work for component suppliers.

Mazda chose Dagenham after being impressed with the plant's high efficiency which places it among Ford's best. The Mazda car will be based on Ford's best-selling Fiesta model, which is made at Dagenham, but with interiors and body styling by Japanese designers.

The deal completes the transformation of Dagenham from a strike-ridden, inefficient factory under threat of closure, to a showpiece. Ian McAllister, chairman of Ford of Britain, said: "Dagenham has proved it can achieve high levels of quality and productivity and this agreement with Mazda recognises the plant's competitiveness."

British Aerospace announced the loss of the jobs of up to 1,350 missile and defence systems workers. Some of the redundancies will be compulsory. BAe said the 660 jobs were likely to go at the headquarters of its Dynamics division at Stevenage, 570 at Lostock in Lancashire, and 120 at Bristol. The latest cutbacks are caused by the imminent completion of work on the company's ten-year, £1.9 billion contract to supply the Rapier 2000 air defence missile system, and the end of development work on a new advanced short range air-to-air missile. The job cuts, involving 35 per cent of the workforce, will position BAe to form a 50/50 joint venture to design, develop and build missiles with Lagardère Groupe of France in what would be Europe's largest missile business.

Unions attacked the cuts, and the Employment Secretary, Roger Lyons, general secretary of the white-collar MSF union, said: "Michael Portillo may claim things are getting better, but the reality is redundancies and workplaces plagued with job insecurity."

Growth flowing, page 21
Jobless falling, page 22

TOMORROW IN THE TIMES



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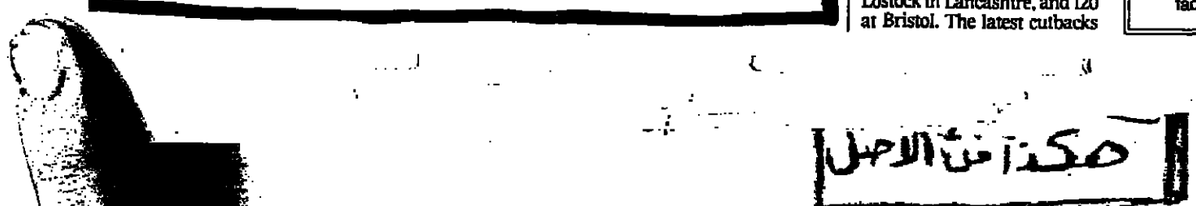
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Freyberg hailed for pensions victory

Shy grandson of Gallipoli VC is war widows' hero

BY ALICE THOMSON, POLITICAL REPORTER

A 24-YEAR-OLD sculptor, grandson of a First World War hero, has become the unlikely toast of the House of Lords.

Peers from all sides of the House were patting Lord Freyberg on the back in the tearooms yesterday after he led a humiliating defeat for the Government over war widows' pensions on Tuesday night.

While Lord Freyberg's grandfather, a VC holder, made his name at Gallipoli by smothering himself in tar and swimming naked in a freezing sea for two hours to light decoys, the third baron has chosen a more passive route.

Lord Freyberg believes that, 50 years after the Second World War, Britain's 40,000 war widows are being treated shabbily and the Government is "cruel and inhumane" in its refusal to continue a war widow's pension if she remarries — the reason he believes why so many war widows do not remarry.

This week the Lords' second youngest member added an amendment to the Pensions Bill to force the Government to restore the £140-a-week pension to war widows who have remarried and then been bereaved or divorced.

Although the Government had estimated it would cost the taxpayer £40 million a year, peers were swayed by Lord Freyberg's emotive speech and voted by 191 votes to 145 for his amendment. Lord Mackay of Ardbrecknish, Social Security Minister, was left floundering. Lord Freyberg was as stunned as his fellow peers by his fame. Although his father had a distinguished army career, Valerian Bernard Freyberg was adamant he was not going to be forced into doing press-ups, and on leaving Eton entered Camberwell Art School to do a degree in ceramics.

But when his father died two years ago he suddenly found himself mixing with a very different crowd. He had



1st Baron Freyberg: VC at Gallipoli

no intention of becoming embroiled in the "deeply boring business of politics". He was not even sure he agreed with hereditary peers in the Lords until a Labour MP asked him to consider making his maiden speech not on funding for impoverished young artists but on war widows.

Lord Freyberg obliged. He would have left it at that if after his speech Lord Mackay had not mistakenly told the Lords he was sure the young peer would find an ingenious amendment to take his cause forward in the Pension Bill. Lord Freyberg, who is more used to trust funds than pension slips, decided to rise to the challenge. Having read sackfuls of distraught letters from war widows saving up for hot-water bottles and who had not enough money to feed their cats, he began planning his strategy.

"The other peers were incredibly helpful. I had no idea how to draft an amendment, how long I was supposed to speak for, whether I was allowed to make any jokes or how I could whip up the support of other peers, but I had two field marshals and a chief air marshal cheering me on," Lord Freyberg said.

For the last two months the peer has devoted himself exclusively to his widows, shunning all social life and taking naps in the Lords library. On Tuesday night his three elder sisters, Annabel, Christina and Venetia, were all watching with scores of people from the Officers' Pensions Society and the War Widows' Association.

"The most terrifying peers were the former Treasury men who obviously thought I was being extravagant and sentimental, and when I saw Lady Thatcher I thought, 'Oh my God', but even Tory frontbenchers have congratulated me now," he said.

All three parties are falling over themselves to sign Lord Freyberg as a dazzling new frontbencher, but he has decided the Lords is too frantic for him and is ready to return to his sculptures.

CHRIS HARRIS



Lord Freyberg in front of the Guards memorial at St James's Park yesterday

Boy blames his father's death on mother's affair

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A TEENAGE boy stunned an inquest with an outburst in which he blamed his mother's close friendship with another man for his father's suicide. Irene Thompson had said nothing about an admirer when she gave evidence relating to the death of her husband Geoffrey, 42, a father-of-four.

She said the late Mr Thompson had been worried about paying the mortgage. The coroner, before summing up at the inquest on Tuesday, asked the dead man's family if they wanted to say anything more.

Patrick Thompson, 16, then said: "My father believed my mother was having an affair with a work colleague called Ken. I heard him challenge Mum about it. I found an envelope full of letters and gifts from Ken. I am sure Dad must have seen them. They were love poems, letters, cards and presents.

"My Dad went up to where my mother works, at the University of Buckingham, and accused Ken of sexually harassing Mum. I heard a lot of arguments and Mum admitted she was seeing Ken. I am sure what Dad did was connected with what was happening." Patrick's speech was heard in silence by the coroner and family, at the inquest at Stoke Mandeville Hospital, Aylesbury. When her son began speaking, Mrs Thompson looked at the floor. She shook her head slightly as he mentioned the relationship. The North Buckinghamshire Coroner, Rodney Corner, then turned to her and asked: "Why didn't you mention this when you gave your evidence?" She replied: "It didn't seem either important or relevant."

Mrs Thompson found her husband's body on January 9 in the garage of their home in North Marston, Buckinghamshire. He had died from carbon monoxide poisoning from car fumes.

In her evidence, Mrs Thompson said her husband, a data manager, had had financial worries for a number of years. "He was always worried about the mortgage," she said. "He had his own business which earned £60,000 a year but when the work dried up we had to go on income support."

Mrs Thompson showed no emotion as the coroner asked about their life together. She said: "I think the marriage would probably have come to an end eventually. The feeling had gone on my side and he knew that."

Recording a verdict of suicide, Mr Corner said: "There is no doubt that this marriage had been corroding. Mrs Thompson developed a friendship with someone called Ken and it was obviously a very close friendship indeed. Mr Thompson presumed she had another man and the effect on him was devastating."

Cult woman to sue friend for damages

BY ANDREW PIERCE

A WOMAN cult member who was the victim of an attempted abduction by a friend who believed she had been brainwashed is to sue him for the trauma she suffered.

Stephen Cooper, 27, was cleared by a jury at Lewes Crown Court on Tuesday of attempting to kidnap his former flatmate Kathleen Wilson, 23, from the Church of Scientology's headquarters in East Sussex.

Scientologists were outraged by the decision, because Cooper had confessed to the abduction attempt but pleaded in his defence that Miss Wilson had been robbed of her freewill by the cult. Yesterday the Church of Scientology said Miss Wilson was issuing a writ.

A spokesman for the cult said the action would be pursued vigorously. "She suffered a gross affront to her dignity. She is entitled to exemplary damages."

Women in police 'are favoured'

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A COMMANDER in the Metropolitan Police said yesterday that women in the force were given preferential treatment because "a minority in an organisation has to be treated with just a little more care".

Commander Tom Laidlaw told an industrial tribunal that female officers should have the balance tipped in their favour when it came to resolving disputes. But Mrs Marjorie Don, the chairman of the hearing at Woburn Place, central London, suggested this amounted to sexual discrimination against men.

Commander Laidlaw was giving evidence in the case of Sergeant Leslie White, who is claiming sexual discrimination against the Metropolitan Police after he was forced to transfer stations because of a dispute with a female colleague, WPC Maureen McGinley, 34. He claimed he was advised to go quietly because he would never win a case against a woman.

Commander Laidlaw, who made the decision to transfer Sergeant White, said: "One of the problems in the police is we are accused of being a macho organisation. We do have young ladies coming in. If it means the balance is tipped slightly in their favour then that is what I do."

Mrs Don said: "This could be referred to as reverse discrimination."

Commander Laidlaw replied: "It could be but I would like to think it would be referred to in a very mild way."

Mrs Don asked Commander Laidlaw: "Had it occurred to you WPC McGinley may have raised a malicious grievance against Sergeant White?"

He replied: "I was satisfied that was not the case. The case was about a supervising officer describing a junior officer to other junior officers and in the course of that conversation using the expressions 'dangerous woman' and a 'feminist'.

"In the context he did not mean to damage her but she found it extremely distressing ... An apology was not forthcoming and positions became more entrenched to the extent I thought they could not work at the same station."

The tribunal is expected to finish today.

SATURDAY IN THE TIMES



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THE SIX-SECTION TIMES IS 30p ON SATURDAY

Scientists flock to put their heads in the cloud

BY NICK NUTTALL

THE misty tops of a Lake District fell is being transformed into an exotic experiment as scientists, armed with vacuum suction machines and special bottles, come to catch clouds.

About £1 million has been given to 37 scientists from countries including Austria, Germany and Slovenia to collect clouds on Great Dunfell, Cumbria.

Dr Keith Bower, an atmospheric physicist from the University of Manchester's Institute of Science and Technology, said yesterday that the 3,000ft fell had two ridges that attracted condensation, allowing researchers to collect clouds as they formed.

Dr Roy Colville added: "We do tests at UMIST then via a computer network send the raw results to the other institutes."

Professor Axel Berner of the Institute of Experimental Physics in Vienna, said: "This is the best spot in the world to collect clouds. There is nowhere else quite like it."

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Gun-toting drug gangs turn town into battlefield

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

THE once-thriving Victorian town of Paisley has become the drug centre of the West of Scotland as gun-toting gangs battle for territorial rights.

Andrew McLaughlin, 31, was shot dead on the doorstep of his home on Tuesday in the fifth gun-related incident in the area in 48 hours. Yesterday Strathclyde Police promised to stamp out a resurgence of gun culture in the town.

Mr McLaughlin, who had been watching television in his home in Linwood on the outskirts of Paisley, went to the door after hearing a noise. Police believe he was killed on the doorstep by up to three gunmen. His daughters Nicola, 14, and Louise, 13, were playing outside. Mr McLaughlin's death is being linked to drugs and to two shootings in Paisley on Sunday when two men aged 36 and 50 were injured, one seriously.

On Monday, in a separate incident in the town, a young couple and their three-year-old son were held hostage in their home by an armed man. The gunman escaped and the couple were in hiding yesterday.

In January a man was shot in a drug-related incident in the town's notorious Ferguslie Park estate. Gordon Petrie was shot at his home in the early morning in what is believed to have been mistaken identity. Police have not ruled out a link between this incident and Mr McLaughlin's death.

Residents of Paisley, known as Paisley Buddies, have become increasingly alarmed at the outbreak of violence in the town, which is best known for its 19th-century architecture and industry. Figures to be released tomorrow are expected to show drug-related incidents in the area up by nearly 50 per cent last year.

In Victorian times, Paisley was a thriving centre manufacturing Paisley shawls, which were exported to fashionable women all over the empire. The thread baron J.P. Coats set up his red-brick factories on the back of this industry and became the main benefactor to the town.

He funded the Coats Memorial Church, the magnificent wedding-cake church in the town centre, which has become known as the Baptist cathedral of Europe. The town also boasts a medieval abbey



and in its heyday supported three newspapers.

Today the thread mills stand dilapitated, their windows smashed and their roofs stripped of lead. Unemployment in the town is above the Scottish average. A supermarket stands on the site of the Chrysler car plant, the last big employer in the region to close.

In the place of legitimate industry the drug dealers have moved into Paisley, taking advantage of the good rail, road and air links to other parts of the country.

Irene Adams, the Labour MP for Paisley North, who is campaigning for extra policing for the area, points out that Paisley is closer to the centre of Glasgow than many of the city's outlying housing estates. "The police are doing a good job but their resources are stretched," she said. "We have to tackle the underlying drugs problem."

Police said yesterday that they were in control of the streets of Paisley but admitted they were disappointed in the limited response to Mr McLaughlin's death. Detective Superintendent Bill Gordon, the officer in charge of the inquiry, said: "I am convinced that there are members of the public who hold vital information about this particularly brutal incident."

Chief Superintendent Michael Currie, divisional head for the area, said: "What we are now seeing is what appears to be a resurgence of the gun culture but we remain determined to deal firmly with this problem. High-profile policing will be evident as we continue to clamp down on criminal activity in Renfrewshire.

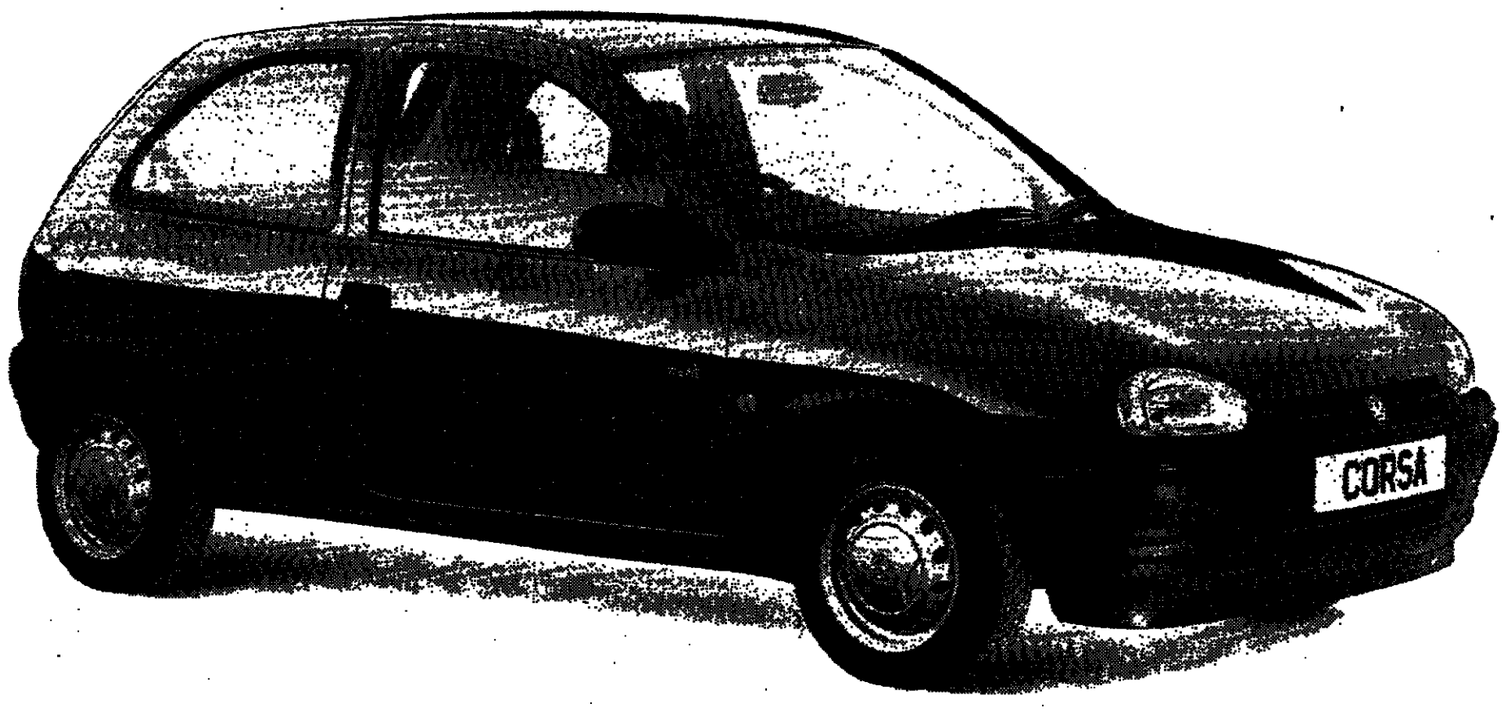
"My message to those members of the community who continue to be involved in firearms crime is simple — you will be relentlessly hunted down. This type of behaviour will not be tolerated."



A pygmy hippopotamus named Hope, born at Edinburgh Zoo last month, paddling yesterday with her mother. The species is vulnerable because of the destruction of rainforests on the west coast of Africa

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Consultants reject criticism

BY JEREMY LAURANCE
HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

SENIOR consultants yesterday attacked a claim that they were neglecting their duties for lucrative private practice.

The Audit Commission said the quarter of consultants with the largest private practices did least for the NHS. A third of consultants missed a tenth of their out-patient clinics or operating sessions and junior doctors were often left unsupervised for tasks beyond their competence.

Professor Sir Norman Browse, President of the Royal College of Surgeons, accused the commission of exaggerating from a sample of 20 or 30 consultants in a dozen hospitals compared with a national total of 16,000 in more than 400 hospitals.

James Johnson of the BMA said: "The main reason for not attending out-patient clinics is because the management has called some sort of management meeting."

CORRECTION

The fax number for coupons for The Times/Dillons forum with Nicholas Negroponte is 0171-580 7680.

Father tells why therapy was chosen

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

THE father of the ten-year-old girl receiving private treatment for leukaemia after a High Court battle explained yesterday why the family decided to go ahead with further chemotherapy.

"Anybody who saw her today going through her K-therapy and looked at the child would have realised that she's in no more pain today than she would have been on any other normal day — and she now has a chance," he said.

Speaking on GMTV, the father said his daughter was not fully aware of the seriousness of her illness. "She has been going to the hospital over the past six weeks or so and every other day she's having some sort of treatment. I said to her would you like to carry on having that or would you like to go through a major block of treatment involving chemotherapy to cure what you've got? ... And she said: 'Yes, I'm quite happy with that'."

He welcomed the support his daughter had received. "Without the help of the press, without the wave of public support, I think she would be at home deteriorating in front of my eyes."

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Law reform chief attacks 'obscure and antique Acts'

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

MILLIONS of pounds of public money is being wasted by judges, lawyers and police seeking to apply "antique, obscure and impenetrable" criminal laws, the Government's law reform body said yesterday.

In its annual report, the Law Commission said that although speedy procedures had been agreed by Parliament for tackling civil law reform, the same machinery did not exist for criminal law.

Sir Henry Brooke, chairman of the commission, said much of the criminal law, such as the Offences Against the Persons Act 1861, was "garbage". He cited one case where a man convicted of grievous bodily harm went all the way to the House of Lords and then back to the Court of Appeal — "after goodness knows how much public money" — to have the conviction quashed. That was because the judge had not given the jury proper directions on what was a "completely out-of-date" law. "Bad law wastes money."

In the past six months, Sir Henry added, six criminal cases involving cases of wounding, actual or grievous bodily harm had come before the Court of Appeal where convictions had been set aside because of misdirections by the trial judge over what the law was on self-defence.

"When you consider that a Crown Court trial costs £7,500 a day, then for each half hour that counsel and the judge is bogged down trying to work out what the law is, it costs £800."

On top of that there were costs in the Court of Appeal, of keeping someone in custody, and of the magistrates' court hearing, he said. "I don't blame the judges," Sir Henry said. "I blame Parliament."

The Law Commission had published proposals to simplify the criminal law both on offences against the person and on the use of force in self-defence, but those were still awaiting enactment. Sir Henry welcomed the "dramatic" change of attitude on civil law reform, resulting in a new, speedy procedure for Bills to go through Parliament.

Sir Henry said that much of civil law remained muddled. "Large swaths of trust law and landlord and tenant law, to cite two examples, are antique, obscure and impenetrable, and the bill for bad law goes to those who have to use it."

Simpler law would save legal fees. "English lawyers are so accustomed to regarding their journeys through English law as if it was G.K. Chesterton's rolling English road that they do not always appreciate that if the law was made simpler, their clients' bills would be smaller."

He also urged further procedural reform to clear the backlog of parliamentary Bills. Parliament should be able to receive evidence on Law Commission Bills throughout the year and not only from January to June, as happened now.

Sir Henry said that Parliament had always opposed putting criminal law Bills through a speedy procedure because they were often used as vehicles for policy issues. But an exception could be made for Law Commission Bills that had all-party support. "Some way must be discovered whereby the needs of members of the House of Commons can be effectively reconciled with the need to convert the bedraggled state of the criminal law into an efficient working tool for law enforcement."

☐ *The Law Commission 29th annual report 1994* (Stationery Office; £12.80)

Leading article, page 17

Keep civil disputes out of court says lawyer

BY FRANCES GIBB

A SEA-CHANGE in the way civil disputes are resolved is urgently needed to restore public access to justice and to save a legal system beset by delays, a leading lawyer said last night.

Lord Alexander of Weedon, a former Bar Council chairman and now chairman of the National Westminster Bank, said that courtroom litigation should be a last resort. Lawyers should resolve disputes with the "minimum of cost and trauma".

"There is a whole sea-change necessary in the approach to dispute resolution," he said in a lecture at the Council of Legal Education in London.

"Possibilities includes mediation or conciliation, non-binding arbitration, mini-trials or executive tribunals and judicial settlement conferences."



REUTER

A saleswoman waiting for punters yesterday at a lottery shop in Kuala Lumpur

Blind bookmaker is held in match-fixing inquiry

BY MGG PILLAI IN KUALA LUMPUR

A BLIND bookmaker who has never seen a football match and yet makes £5 million a month from the game was in detention in Kuala Lumpur last night as the scale of illegal betting on the game became clear.

Malaysia has been linked with allegations that the result of English league matches have been fixed and leading players bribed to lose matches. The Malaysian government has not named the 50-year-old bookie at the centre of a business which is thought to be worth at least £1.25 billion a year in Malaysia alone. If business in the rest of South-East Asia is taken into account it could be twice that amount.

The man implicated by the inquiry is thought to have masterminded one of the biggest soccer bribery scandals in the history of the professional game. He reportedly used a relative's business premises in Kuala Lumpur from which he dispatched a team of runners who bribed people to cheat in matches. The heart of the illegal betting and fixing of matches is in Singapore where a bookmaker recently admitted offering a goalkeeper £26,000 to fix a match.

In Malaysia more than a hundred soccer players are under arrest for their alleged roles in match fixing, with 80 banned from league matches, and 22 sent into internal exile. At one point the scale of the problem was so severe that it was feared that the Malaysian soccer league might collapse but the focus for many remains the FA Carling Premiership in England.

An official from Interpol arrived in Malaysia yesterday to gather further information about betting syndicates.

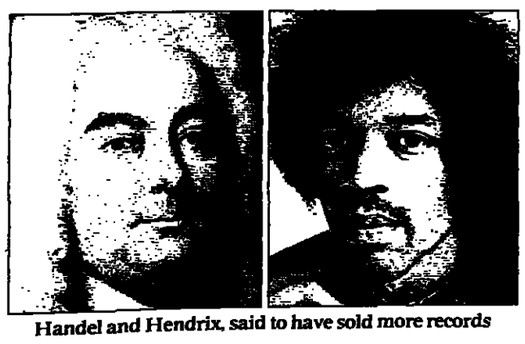
Malaysian police have begun a clean-up, but they face an unenviable task. The superb telecommunication system available to bookmakers — especially the cellular telephone — keeps them several steps ahead of the authorities. One police officer said: "We only knew how bad it was when we began investigating it."

Then the dominoes began to fall, as prominent league players found themselves detained and shunted into restricted residences in an effort to keep them separate from the syndicates. But with gambling rife, and the provision of albeit illegal services, it become difficult to curtail. A Malaysian columnist, Tengku Adnan Mansor, said that the syndicates control "almost everything connected with lucrative sport".

A football team manager and a player are currently on trial in Singapore charged with fixing the result of an important match involving Singapore in the Football Association of Malaysia Premier League.

One former football official said match fixing was not new. "What is, is the emergence of syndicates prepared to fix matches," he said. "They are well funded, operate behind a screen of 'runners' who collect bets and settle with those who win.

"They have links to the underworld and are completely amoral. They moved into London as an extension of their operations, and the fact that football results there are widely reported in the local newspapers. Also, gambling on the London football matches is not allowed in Malaysia."



Handel and Hendrix, said to have sold more records

Pop plaque plan rocks classicists

BY DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

LOVERS of classical music are sounding a discordant note over the prospect of a plaque dedicated to a pop star, even one as legendary as Jimi Hendrix, being put up on the house next to George Frederick Handel's London home.

Handel lived at 25 Brook Street in Mayfair for 36 years; Hendrix lived next door, at No 23, in the late 1960s.

The Handel House Trust wants to turn the two buildings into a museum devoted to Handel, but fans of the great rock guitarist are pushing for a plaque on No 23. The application was made to English Heritage by Hendrix's former lover Kathy Etchingham and one of his biographers, Harry Shapiro.

Neil Storey, who represents Hendrix's estate, believes that Hendrix has as much right to be there as Handel. "The Handel society is fighting for it not to be put up. Hendrix was an artist of great importance. You can't compare the two. But in their own time, both were regarded as cutting-edge musicians."

Stanley Sadie, chairman of the Handel House Trust, said: "We've known for years that Hendrix lived in 23. But a plaque can only be put up with the owner's permission." He explained that the trust was planning to buy the building from the Co-operative Insurance Society.

He added that some mention of Hendrix could perhaps go inside the house "or some other way". "Personally I'm not terribly interested in that kind of music, but of course he is an important figure in the history of pop music."

Ms Etchingham, Hendrix's girlfriend from 1966 to 1969, said: "I'm dumbfounded at their reaction. Hendrix lived at 23. Handel didn't. He lived next door. Hendrix wrote some of his famous scores there. I'm shocked by their reaction. Hendrix has sold more records than Handel. He's more relevant to today's society than Handel."

A spokeswoman for English Heritage said its advisory commission had decided such a plaque "would be of interest" and had written to the Co-operative Society.

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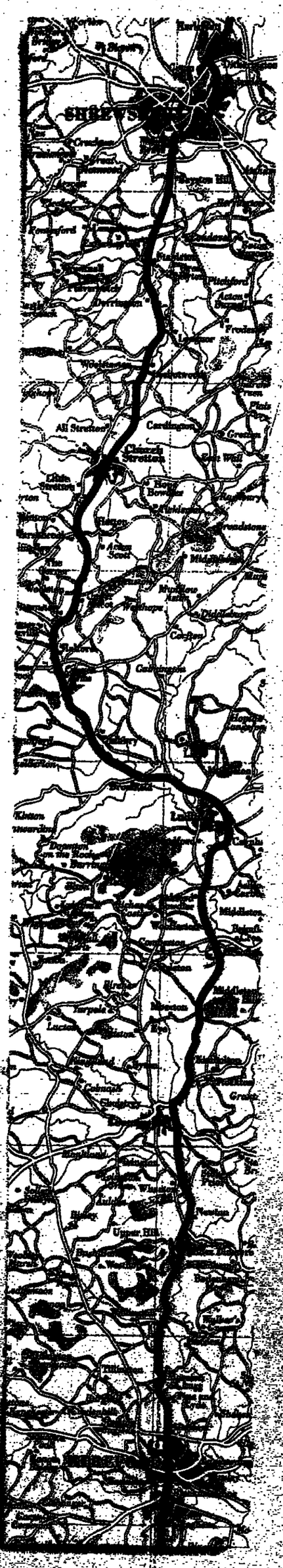
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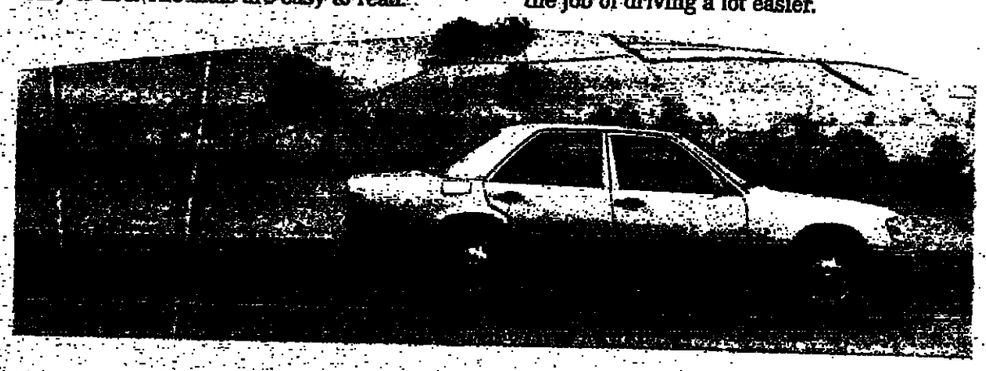
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THE TIMES

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3 Bulldog
4 Wire-haired
5 Rough collie
6 Scottish terrier
7 Airedale terrier
8 Irish setter
9 Pekinese
10 Cocker spaniel

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BY JONATHAN
AND GILLIAN

THE high-profile
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Vets' royal college cracks down on dog tail docking

BY EMMA WILKINS

MORE than 20 vets have been reported to the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons for flouting rules against the cosmetic docking of dogs' tails, it emerged yesterday.

As some 20,000 dogs and their owners gather in Birmingham for the opening day of Cruft's today, the college (RCVS) said it was considering redrafting its professional code of conduct to discipline vets who continued to remove tails for cosmetic reasons. While the Kennel Club argues that docking does not cause suffering, the RCVS regards the practice as an unjustified mutilation.

In 1993, laws came into effect that made it illegal for anyone other than a vet to dock tails. This is the first year that dogs that could have been protected by the legislation will be old enough to be shown at Cruft's.

The RCVS, which says 95 per cent of vets are abiding by its guidelines, must show that a vet is routinely docking before it can begin disciplinary action.

Walter Beswick, chairman of the RCVS's docking working party, said that cases were difficult to prove. "We are currently redrafting our code and we are looking very closely at the question of routine docking," he said. "The need to prove routine docking is causing problems. It is unlikely, for example, that the person who wants the docking done is going to come forward as a witness."

Vets found guilty of routine docking would face tough disciplinary action, Mr Beswick said. "Sooner or later a case is going to come before the disciplinary committee and we will take vigorous action."

Despite widespread abhorrence at docking among amateur pet owners, the practice remains popular with breeders. Mr Beswick said he expected a large number of show dogs at Cruft's to have had their tails docked.

"It will be interesting to see how many of the show breeds are undocked. The breeders who show customarily docked breeds, such as boxers and rottweilers, continue to dock their tails for no other reason except tradition. That really is not acceptable," he said.

Some breeders are continuing to dock tails illegally — breaking the Veterinary Surgeons Act (1991), which came into effect two years ago, Mr Beswick claimed.

The Kennel Club, which expects to attract a record 100,000 visitors to Cruft's this year, denied that docking caused suffering to dogs. Brian Leonard, a club spokesman, said: "This is not a welfare issue. It is not against the law to dock and it doesn't hurt the animal."

According to RCVS surveys conducted at vets' surgeries throughout the country, public opinion is overwhelmingly against docking. About 90 per cent of people who filled in questionnaires said they were against docking, with 81 per cent of owners of docked dogs saying they were against the practice.

The RCVS considers docking permissible if the tail is damaged or in some cases of working dogs, such as gun dogs, which might injure their tails in rough cover.

Beverley Cuddy, editor of *Dogs Today*, said many show judges would not give points to dogs with intact tails. "They are ignoring the guidelines and the Kennel Club is failing to do anything about it," she said. "The chances are that this year's supreme champion will be an amputee. It is an indefensible practice."

Ms Cuddy has formed an association called Tail Waggers Against Docking to link between breeders and pet buyers who want a puppy with an intact tail. "We find people will travel the length of the country to find a puppy with a tail in a breed which is usually docked," she said.

Cruft's, which lasts four days, is in its 104th year this year. Organisers expects this year's show at the National Exhibition Centre to be the largest yet.

Today sees the gundog group and agility and flyball. The working group and obedience championship (bitches) will be tomorrow. The hound and terrier groups and obedience championship (dogs) will follow on Saturday.

The final day is the toy and utility groups and the best in show to discover this year's supreme champion.

Leading article, page 17

TOP 10 FAVOURITE BREEDS NOW AND THEN

THE cocker spaniel is one of the most enduringly popular breeds for British dog lovers, holding places in the top ten most in both 1908 and 1994. In 1908, when 535 dogs were registered by the Kennel Club in Britain, it was the tenth most popular. Last year, with 12,808 registered, it came sixth.

Terriers of various types have also proved consistently popular over the years.

In 1908 the most popular breeds were:
1 Pomeranian
2 Smooth-haired fox terrier
3 Bulldog
4 Wire-haired fox terrier
5 Rough collie
6 Scottish terrier
7 Airedale terrier
8 Irish setter
9 Pekinese
10 Cocker spaniel

In 1994 the most popular breeds were:
1 Labrador retriever
2 German shepherd
3 Golden retriever
4 West Highland terrier
5 Cavalier King Charles spaniel
6 Cocker spaniel
7 Yorkshire terrier
8 English springer spaniel
9 Boxer
10 Staffordshire bull terrier

Fox terriers and Scottish terriers have fallen foul of fashion trends since the turn of the century. While the rottweiler failed to make an appearance on last year's list of the top 20 British breeds, this year it has risen to 14.

One of the most long-loved breeds is the Cavalier King Charles spaniel, 13th most popular in 1908 and now up to 5th.



Last year's Cruft's supreme champion Buttons, a black and brown Welsh terrier that had been docked, with its handler Frank Kellett; and, right, English springer spaniels shown in undocked and docked styles

Icy road victim gets £300,000

A man who suffered brain damage after his car skidded on an icy road received £300,000 damages in an out-of-court settlement yesterday.

Douglas Mullings, 45, of Thetford, Norfolk, sued Norfolk County Council claiming that the road at Mundford was not properly gritted. Mr Mullings, a former mechanical fitter, was on his way to work in February 1988 when his car slid across the road and hit an oncoming lorry. He was in a coma for two weeks and in hospital for four months, Norwich Crown Court was told.

'Surfer' inquest

A boy of 14 died when he slipped from a vehicle's bonnet while "car surfing". An open verdict was recorded on Ian Storey of Sunderland, who was crushed under the wheels of the car, driven by his mother's boyfriend.

Worker frozen

An ice cream worker froze to death after the door of a walk-in freezer slammed shut behind him. Paul Edmunds, 19, was found by staff arriving for work at the Haagen-Dazs shop in Stratford-upon-Avon.

BR driver hurt

Doctors removed fragments of glass from a train driver's eye after a brick was thrown through his cab window from a footbridge near Northfleet, Kent, during peak travel time on Tuesday evening. Police are investigating.

Cleared man dies

Francis McGirl, 39, cleared of the IRA murder of Earl Mountbatten in 1979, died when his tractor overturned in Ballinamore, Co Leitrim. His co-accused, Thomas McMahon, had been jailed for life.

£166,000 Bible

A first edition of the Bible in Basque from the library of the sixth Marquess of Bute sold for £166,500 at Christies in London. The Bible is one of only two dozen that survived the St Bartholomew's Day massacre of Huguenots.

Campaign fails to save West Highland sleeper service

BY JONATHAN PRYNN AND GILLIAN BOWDITCH

THE high-profile campaign to save the West Highland sleeper appeared doomed to failure yesterday after British Rail announced that it would run for the last time on May 28. Scottish MPs accused ministers of a "grotesque breach of faith" by allowing the loss-making, 94-year-old service to be scrapped so quickly.

Campaigners for the sleeper, which links Fort William with Euston station in London and is seen as vital to the Highland economy, plan to challenge the decision in the courts because local communities were not consulted.

British Rail said it could not justify retaining a service that was losing £3 million a year at a time of severe financial constraints.

As well as the West Highland sleeper, known as the Deerstalker Express because of the large number of peers and Scottish landowners who use it, British Rail is cutting overnight trains between the West Country and Scotland and all Motorail services between England and Scotland. The surviving sleeper services to Scotland will be restructured so that two trains a night cross the border in each direction instead of the present five.

A spokesman for British Rail said that its Anglo-Scottish sleeper services, which carry about 200,000 passengers a year, were the biggest lossmakers on the network, requiring a subsidy of £24 million a year. The cuts will save £7 million a year, including the £3 million cost of the West Highland sleeper.

The 60 British Rail employees based in Fort William said job losses would inevitably follow. One said that the sleeper was running at full capacity. "It's choc-a-bloc. Especially on a Thursday or Friday night. It's impossible to get a berth at present."

Neil Clark, chairman of Lochaber District Council, which has lobbied hard to keep the sleeper service, said: "This is devestating news for Lochaber. It is our link with the metropolis. The nearest airports are Glasgow and Inverness and they are 80 and 100 miles away. The decision will have a very serious effect on tourism and we believe around 20 jobs will go at British Rail.

"It makes a sham of the consultation process. When we lobbied in London, last month we were given an assurance by Sir Hector Monro that there would be a full and fair consultation process. This was backed up by Lord James Douglas-Hamilton. This Government is devoid of all moral fibre."

Charles Kennedy, the Liberal Democrat MP for Ross, Cromarty & Skye, said the decision to scrap the sleeper and Motorail services was particularly hypocritical, given that £4 million is to be paid to consultants for advice on franchising.

"Four million pounds extra can be found ten months into the financial year to pay off professional advisers and consultants. Yet there is not a penny more for the travelling public," he said.



Kennedy: critical of £4m consultants' fees

Now mortgages are fixed by phone in just 15 minutes

Interest rates continue to rise and borrowers are locking into highly attractive fixed-rate mortgages with one free telephone call.

There is a mortgage war going on between lenders who are trying to attract new business with ever increasing incentives on offer. And you the customer can make sure you win this war, but you probably need to switch lenders to do this.

With interest rates set to increase the most sensible of the offers available today are fixed rates. These provide real financial security. Most lenders are forecasting standard variable mortgage rates at around 9% by the end of this year. This means that a borrower with a £50,000 interest only mortgage would have to pay out an extra £410 a year compared with a typical variable rate at the start of this year. So if you can fix below this level the savings can potentially be huge. Even bigger if you recall that mortgage rates have averaged around 11% over the last ten years.

So, how do you take advantage of this opportunity without all the hassle you remember from taking out your mortgage? Probably, the easiest way to switch to a great fixed rate is through a free 15 minute call to First Mortgage Securities. FMS is the leading direct mortgage business – at the forefront of a new trend which is set to revolutionise the way people obtain mortgages in the UK. It's already happened in Home and Motor Insurance.

One simple 15 minute call to First Mortgage Securities is all it takes to find out the best mortgage deal for you. Your call is free and a friendly professional consultant will discuss your needs. They can answer any questions you may have and will let you have a decision in principle straight away. Even the paperwork is dealt with over the phone, all you have to do is check and sign it.

Unlike other lenders who claim to deal direct FMS offers a total mortgage service which aims to get you the most competitive mortgage for your needs as quickly and efficiently as possible.

FMS make the whole process of arranging a mortgage as straight forward as possible. There is no branch to visit and FMS will look after the task of instructing a valuer and a solicitor on your behalf. Remortgages can normally be completed within 3 weeks getting you quicker access to a better mortgage.

An extensive range of mortgage products is available from FMS for you to choose from including fixed rates from 4.49% (APR 4.9%) for one and a half years to 8.74% (APR 10%) until the year 2000. They can even offer 100% loans – one of the few companies to do this. Or for customers with more than 25% equity they have a completely cost free remortgage at 7.99% (APR 8.5%) until January 1998. For this there are no arrangement fees, no valuation or legal fees, no compulsory insurances and FMS will even pay legal disbursements up to £250.

London-based FMS pioneered fixed-rate home loans introducing them to the UK in 1987 and is at the cutting edge of the mortgage market. Concentrating solely on providing mortgages they have a strong reputation for designing products that really meet your needs.

There are a number of reasons why FMS are able to offer such great rates. Firstly, they only lend to high quality customers with good credit records, thus reducing the risk of exposure to bad debts. And they have very low overheads; clearly, by dealing direct there is no expensive branch network to maintain.

So don't just think about getting a better mortgage, pick up the phone now. If you don't you may regret it by next year.

The APR is based on a typical example of a repayment loan of £45,000 for a remortgage of £60,000 for a loan term of 25 years with a fixed rate of interest of 7.99% per annum until 1 January 1998 and thereafter at the equivalent variable rate (assumed to be 7.99% per annum). Loan to be repaid after 300 monthly payments of £351.00 gross (£314.25net of MIRAS on £30,000 at 20%). Total amount payable £105,300. Securily over property and a suitable life assurance policy will be required. Loans subject to status. Written quotations available on request. First Mortgage Securities, Brettenham House, 14-15 Lancaster Place, London WC2E 7EP.

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The whole mortgage process can now be handled by telephone

£ Net monthly payments*

%	£50,000	£75,000	£100,000
7.50	284.38	440.63	596.88
8.00	303.33	470.00	636.67
8.50	322.29	499.38	676.46
9.00	341.25	528.75	716.25
9.50	360.21	558.13	756.04
10.00	379.17	587.50	795.83
10.50	398.13	616.88	835.63

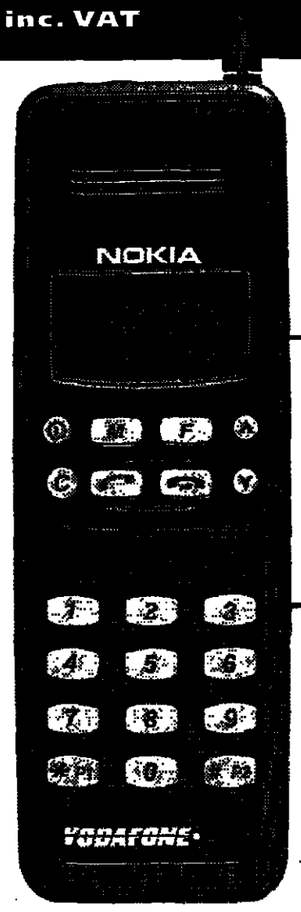
*Note All payments quoted above are monthly interest only payments net of MIRAS (tax relief of 15% with effect from 6 April 1995, on the first £30,000 of the loan).

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Paxman to nurture first fruit of BBC's strategy for every viewer



Paxman: no politics and no politicians

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

JEREMY PAXMAN is to host a new BBC current affairs discussion programme that will replace *Question Time* during Parliament's summer recess.

Mr Paxman, a *Newsnight* presenter, said that the programme would not feature politicians. Unlike many discussion programmes, guests would not be allowed to "drone on with their opinions". *The People's Debate* would talk about issues that affect people's everyday lives, such as animal rights, juvenile crime and NHS spending. It will not discuss party politics. Announcing details of the show yesterday, Alan Yentob, controller of BBC1, said that it had been developed as a direct result of the BBC's recently published £2 million strategy review, which identified a need for more accessible programmes that related to people's everyday lives.

Mr Yentob denied that the programme had been offered to Mr Paxman, who is widely thought to have been the target of an attack on "overbearing and sneering" interviewers launched by John Birt, the BBC Director-General, as a consolation prize for failing to win the job as chairman of *Question Time* last year. *The People's Debate* will be part of the BBC's £243 million spring and summer schedules, which contain fewer repeats than before. Mr Yentob said 67 hours of new programming had been added to the summer schedules at a cost of £23 million.

BBC2 is to screen a drama based on the Scott inquiry into the arms-to-Iraq affair during the week that its findings are published in June. The piece is based on a play by the journalist Richard Norton-Taylor.

In an anniversary tribute, BBC1 will screen all the episodes of *Fawlty Towers*, made 20 years ago. Only 12 episodes about the antics of the Torquay hotelier Basil Fawlty, played by John Cleese, were made. They also starred Andrew Sachs as Manuel the Spanish waiter and Prunella Scales as Basil's wife Sybil.

Drama on BBC1 this summer includes *Hamish MacBeth*, a comedy about a policeman in a Highland village, and *Castles*, a 13-part family saga produced in association with Granada Television.

Factual programmes include *Barnardo's Children*, which tells the stories of some of the 350,000 people who were brought up in the children's home founded by Dr Thomas Barnardo in 1867. In *Island Race*, the former Beirut hostage John McCarthy and the comedienne Sandi Toksvig sail around the coast of Britain on "a voyage of personal discovery". The journalist William Shawcross will present a three-part documentary on the Royal Family.

BBC2 will mark the centenary of the trial of Oscar Wilde on April 3 with an evening of programmes that will include a *Timewatch* documentary narrated by Wilde's grandson, Merlin Holland, in which he searches for the dramatist's true story.

The fiftieth anniversary of VE-Day and VJ-Day will be celebrated by a documentary on the corporation's own participation in the war. *What Did You Do In The War, Auntie?* In *News 45* Sue Lawley will present a season of contemporary reporting of the end of the war.

☐ The BBC's lavish costume dramas *Middlemarch* and *Martin Chuzzlewit* have been nominated for 14 awards at the British Academy of Film and Television Arts next month.

The playwright Dennis Potter's last interview with his friend Melvyn Bragg, in which he disclosed that he was dying of cancer and spoke of his life's work, has been nominated for an arts programme award.



Cleese: anniversary outing for Fawlty

Dentists withdraw NHS care from 800,000 patients

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

DENTISTS have dropped more than 800,000 patients from their NHS lists in two years because they are too expensive to treat, according to official figures.

The Liberal Democrats, who obtained the figures in answer to a parliamentary question, said it was impossible to get NHS dental treatment in some areas as increasing numbers of dentists were going private. The figures show that 829,000 patients have been deregistered by dentists since 1992 "because of their dissatisfaction with the remuneration system". In that year, the Government cut dentists' fees by 7 per cent after they treated more patients than expected.

Alex Carlile, the party's health spokesman, said there was a north-south divide, with dentists in the South of the country ditching their patients three times as fast as in the North.

"The South is where dentist's overheads are highest and where they think they can survive easiest by private income. Dentists are telling their patients to go private or go elsewhere. If people cannot afford private treatment they are most likely not being treated at all."

The disclosure brought an instant response from Gerald Malone, the Health Minister, who said the Government would shortly unveil a shake-up in the way dentists were paid. He said: "I totally reject Alex Carlile's suggestion that NHS dentistry is under threat. The Government has a clear commitment to support it and we will shortly be bringing forward a framework of proposals for reform of the way dentists are paid. Mr Carlile is looking for a crisis that does not exist.

"Alex Carlile claims that one patient is deregistered every two minutes, but overlooks the fact that 45 patients join a dental list in the same two minutes. Dental lists are constantly changing when, for example, people move or dentists retire. Nearly 21 million adults and over six million children are registered with an NHS dentist and there are over 15,800 dentists practising in the NHS — 500 more than two years ago."

NHS dental patients pay 80 per cent of the cost of treatment up to a maximum of £250. Children and those on benefits are treated free. Many NHS dentists have deregistered adult paying patients while continuing to treat children and the poor, who are exempt from payment.

The worst-hit areas are Kent and Gloucestershire, with 58,000 patients dropped in each county since 1992. More than 30,000 patients have been ditched in a further eight counties, all in the South except Lancashire. Seven areas — Barnsley, Bradford, Hillingdon, Oldham, Sandwell, Sunderland and Walsall — have not deregistered any patients. John Hunt, chief executive of the British Dental Association, said: "A lot of dentists find it difficult to provide a high-quality service under the existing fee structure." He said 800,000 patients was only 1.5 per cent of the population. "Many of those will have discussed the matter with their dentist and agreed to go private. As they are already paying 80 per cent of the cost of their treatment it won't make a lot of difference."

He said dentists were "desperately waiting" for the Government's response to the Bloomfield report on the dentists' payment system. The report, by Sir Kenneth Bloomfield, was followed by a Green Paper last July that proposed helping those who could not afford to pay. "The Government invests £900 million in the dental service with a further £500 million coming from patient charges but it is not enough to run a comprehensive service," Mr Hunt said.

Joe Eisenberg, who runs a dental practice in Blackheath, southeast London, said: "I have to make £600 a day before I can eat. I nearly went bankrupt a few years ago because of the current system." He said he used to run a practice treating NHS patients, "but in the end was £50,000 overdrawn so something had to be done".

CHRIS HARRIS



Lady Salisbury inspects the tapestry *Winter*, woven in 1611, which went on show yesterday at Hatfield House, Hertfordshire. The tapestry is one of four from the Sheldon School that are said to be the finest English tapestries of their period

JPs throw doubt on Howard's sentence reforms

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

PROPOSALS by Michael Howard to give courts the power to determine details of a community sentence ran into immediate difficulty yesterday when magistrates' leaders expressed doubts about the scheme.

The Home Secretary plans to abolish non-custodial penalties and to create a single community sentence as part of a drive to reassure the public. A Green Paper, entitled *Strengthening Punishment in the Community*, published yesterday, says: "Probation supervision is still widely regarded as a soft option. Although in many cases this perception may be misconceived, it must be addressed."

Magistrates would decide the type of community punishment and impose extra conditions such as hard physical work or attendance on a drug treatment course. Probation officers would be stripped of much of their discretion in setting punishments and magistrates would be expected to have more involvement in the way community sentences were supervised by the probation and social service departments.

Magistrates could specify a mix of penalties and conditions designed to match the crime and an offender's behavioural problems. They would specify the type of punishment an offender must face and impose conditions such as attendance at a day centre and treatment for alcohol or drug abuse.

Mr Howard said that under his proposals a person convicted of criminal damage to a shop could face hard manual work and be banned from going near the shop. He also intended to end the need for an offender to consent to a non-custodial punishment.

But Rosemary Thomson, chairman of the 28,000-strong Magistrates' Association, questioned the practicality of her members setting the conditions of community service. She said: "We would have input in the day-to-day detail. That won't be easy in practice."

Mrs Thomson said she was "agnostic" about the logistics of the proposals and added: "What I would say to the Home Secretary is that if after we have it given it our very best shot we don't see how it will work and we can't make it work, will he please not legislate."

There had been six criminal justice Acts between 1925 and 1985 but since then there had been six more. "We now risk the public not understanding what the courts are doing and if there is too much legislation which is not absolutely necessary, that will undermine public confidence."

Harry Fletcher, assistant general secretary of the National Association of Probation Officers, condemned the proposals as a further assault on the probation service. "The Home Secretary is preoccupied with presentation, his own image, punishment and retribution."

☐ *Strengthening Punishment in the Community* (Stationery Office: £9)

Policeman's son jailed over guns

A POLICEMAN'S son was jailed for nine years by the Old Bailey yesterday for firearms offences. Donville Gibson, 22, was arrested after three men fired a pistol and shotgun at two unarmed policemen in Highbury, north London.

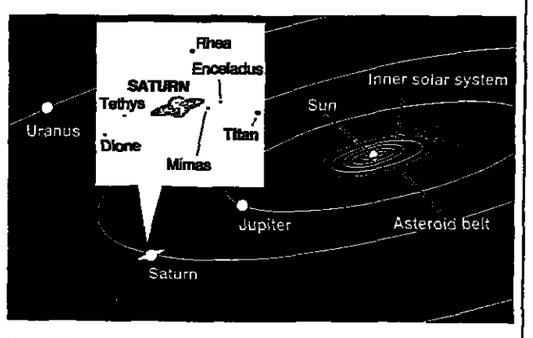
Gibson, whose father is a corporal in the Jamaican police force, was acquitted at the Old Bailey in August of soliciting to murder a police officer and attempting to murder another. He was arrested in a nearby garden, where police found guns and ammunition, but said he was not involved in the shootings.

Yesterday Gibson, of Finsbury Park, north London, was found guilty of possessing and using a firearm with intent to endanger life and having a firearm and ammunition in a public place.

The shootings happened after a constable and a detective tried to question a man urinating in the street. Nobody was hurt.

Astronomers paint chilly picture of life on Titan

BY NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR



TITAN, the largest moon of Saturn, is a world of land-locked oceans full of liquid natural gas, the latest theory suggests.

Observations by the Hubble space telescope have shown that Titan has land and sea but that its atmosphere is so rich in methane and its temperature so low that the seas are thought to consist of liquified hydrocarbons.

The theory has one snag, according to a report in *Nature* by Stanley Dermott of Florida University and Carl Sagan of Cornell. The orbit followed by the huge planet around Saturn is highly elliptical, which does not fit easily with the idea that it has continents and oceans, the astonomers say.

The reason is that the gravitational pull of Saturn would produce large tides in the oceans and the friction generated by these tides would over the billions of years since the birth of the solar system have tended to make the orbit more circular.

Dr Dermott and Dr Sagan argue that Titan cannot therefore have a global oceanic system, linked together like the Earth's. It could, however, have a series of disconnected seas and crater lakes full of hydrocarbons, they say.

The theory could be tested by further observations, either from Hubble or a proposed mission to Saturn and Titan early next century, which would measure the reflection from Titan's surface of radar and infrared signals which can penetrate its thick clouds. The difference in reflection from different areas would show how much was sea and how much land.

An alternative explanation does exist — that the highly elliptical orbit of Titan is due to a fairly recent impact with a big object from outer space.

Bats denied prey by new street lights

BY OUR SCIENCE EDITOR

THE replacement of old street lights could be bad news for bats. Two studies have shown that bats prefer to hunt around mercury-vapour lamps, which emit light that attracts moths and other insects. The newer sodium lamps do not act as lures for insects.

Working in the Dee valley in Scotland, Jens Rydell, a Swedish scientist from Lund University, has shown that pipistrelle bats cluster on roads with mercury-vapour lamps at a density of 3.1 per kilometre, ten times greater than along unlit roads or roads with sodium lamps.

He found similar results in southern Sweden. Dr Rydell's technique, reported in *New Scientist*, is to drive along roads with an ultrasonic detector tuned to the frequencies that bats use to locate their prey, counting the number he passes.

Scientific brainwave quells pain of noisy neighbours

BY NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

TECHNOLOGY is at hand to put an end to the scourge of noisy neighbours. British researchers are developing a system that will neutralise the low, pounding vibrations of beat music pumping out of next door's hi-fi late at night.

Over the past four years, 17 people have been murdered or have committed suicide because of noise pollution. According to studies by environmental health officers, millions more are blighted by noise and many councils do not have the resources to bring prosecutions.

The new development could make beat music as inoffensive as the distant rumble of a train. The scientists, who have been given more than £100,000 in funding from the Government's Engineering and Physical Science Research Council, are adapting sound suppressant technology used in planes and sports cars.

Modern propeller aircraft, such as the Saab 2000, are now fitted with active sound systems based on developments at Southampton University. About 36 hidden microphones, which sense the plane's engine noise, are linked to a computer programmed with the acoustics of the passenger cabin. The computer controls 18 hidden speakers that emit sounds designed to cancel the powerful hums that would make a flight intolerable.

Lotus Engineering, in co-operation with the Southampton team, has developed a similar system for sports cars. Because sound comes in waves, a mirror image of the wave noise — an antiphase signal — cancels out both.

Frank Fahy, Professor of Engineering Acoustics at the university's institute of sound and vibration, said yesterday: "Inconsiderate neighbours playing their audios at a high level is becoming an increasing problem. A very substantial proportion of this is caused by beat music.

"We have been successful using active control with aeroplanes and cars so trying to tackle noisy neighbours seemed a natural extension."

The team is studying the acoustics of the average flat and semi-detached house, and will site microphones and speakers in test rooms. For the anti-noise system to work, neutralising sounds need to be fed into all parts of the room and matched precisely with the output of the hi-fi.

Professor Fahy said beat music lent itself to neutralising noise technology. Like aircraft or engine noise, the offending bass notes are low-frequency sounds. The music is also repetitive and predictable, unlike classical music. "If your noisy neighbour is into classical music like Rachmaninov, this won't work. It is too random."

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Tory chairman's allegation sets tone for a bruising election campaign

Hanley claims Labour local authorities 'tend to be corrupt'

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JEREMY HANLEY, the Tory party chairman, was at the centre of another political dispute yesterday after claiming that Labour councils were generally corrupt.

Launching the party's local election campaign, Mr Hanley set the tone for what looks likely to be one of the dirtiest battles for some years. He announced that the Tories would expose Labour's "rotten boroughs" during the run-up to the elections on May 4, and declared: "Labour local government tends to be corrupt."

The comment sparked a furious response from Labour while John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, appeared to distance himself from it. Mr Hanley refused to retract the words when challenged later, merely adding: "There is a lot of corruption among Labour councils and even the Labour Party admits it."

Last December Rod Richards, a junior Welsh minister, was forced to apologise after suggesting that Welsh Labour councils were "fundamentally corrupt". Frank Dobson, the Shadow Environment Secretary, called for a similar retraction from Mr Hanley.

However, a senior Tory party spokesman insisted that there would be "no retreat and no retraction". A press notice released hastily yesterday afternoon said that the forthcoming campaign would demonstrate the truth of Mr Hanley's words.

The release identifies six councils where it is claimed that "illegal anti-competitive practices and fraud" have taken place: Lambeth, Haringey, Derbyshire, Monklands, Birmingham and Tameside. "We are extremely happy to have a row over the issue," the spokesman said. "All the evidence shows that the party of sleaze in local government is the Labour Party."

Mr Hanley's remarks flew in the face of advice from Mr Gummer, who had earlier criticised Labour for seizing upon allegations against Westminster council, where the Tories are being investigated over allegations of selling homes for votes.

"I believe people are innocent until proven guilty," Mr Gummer said. In television interviews later he pointedly refused to endorse Mr Hanley's remarks but instead focused on Birmingham, the centre of recent "grants for votes" allegations and which was the subject of a Commons debate yesterday.

Mr Dobson demanded that Mr Hanley withdraw "his disgraceful slur" immediately and pointed to the Tories' own local government record. "What he says comes ill from the chairman of the Tory party when they have consistently washed their hands of taking any action over the disgraceful behaviour of Tory-controlled Westminster."

If Mr Hanley had evidence to support his allegations he should take it to the police, he said. "To withhold such evidence is indefensible. But if, as I suspect, he has no evidence of corruption and is merely indulging in smears and innuendo, the chairman of the Tory party should be ashamed of himself."

Mr Hanley has been involved in a series of gaffes since he took over as party chairman last summer. Soon after his appointment he pre-empted the Prime Minister by saying he would stay in his post until the next election. Later he described a riot at a boxing match as "exuberance". He caused further embarrassment on a day when Kenneth Clarke announced a rise in interest rates by saying that he did not want to see any further increase.

A Labour spokesman said: "This is another nail in Mr Hanley's coffin. On the opening day of the campaign Cabinet ministers are distancing themselves from his latest gaffe at every opportunity."

Mr Hanley refused to make any predictions over the outcome of the council elections, refusing even to rule out the possibility that the Tories would come third, behind the Liberal Democrats. "I am not in any way forecasting the result. I regard that as sterile."

A recent survey for BBC1's *On The Record* showed the Tories losing 1,350 seats and being pushed into third place. They now hold about 7,000 seats in England and Wales, compared with Labour's 9,200.



Heath urges end to question time shouting match

BY JAMES LANDALE, POLITICAL REPORTER

PRIME MINISTER'S question time has descended into a "hideous shouting match" in the eyes of the public and should be reformed, Sir Edward Heath said yesterday.

Sir Edward, who is Father of the House of Commons, told the Commons Procedure Committee that Prime Minister's Questions (PMQs) had changed enormously during his 45 years in Parliament and had become so controversial that every day had become election day. "The whole level of the proceedings has lowered and I have absolutely no doubt that has been true in the public mind too," he told the committee, which is examining possible changes to PMQs.

"I don't think the public regard it any longer as a revelation on television of the proper purposes of Government. They do regard it as a hideous shouting match in which each side is trying to abuse the other."

The first question, which usually asks the Prime Minister about his official engagements that day, should be scrapped, Sir Edward said, and a substantial question put in its place. The Prime Minister and his office should have at least 72 hours to prepare an answer so that a proper and serious response could be given.

Sir Edward, who was Prime Minister between 1970 and 1974, said: "PMQs should be a serious examination of the major problems of the day on which the Prime Minister should be concerned, and it's nothing like that today ... I don't think that members are asking for information or seeking it. What they are trying to do is strike a point for their own side."

He said that, while he supported the televising of Parliament, it had made PMQs too theatrical and that was "thoroughly bad". It had made PMQs less respected across the world.

However, he doubted whether the system would be changed. "All you have to do is get the House of Commons to accept it and obviously that won't happen."

He also attacked the number of questions planted by Government whips who told backbench MPs to raise specific subjects. "We never had planted questions," he said.

Council accused of buying votes with public funds

BY JAMES LANDALE

A SENIOR Tory MP accused the Labour-controlled Birmingham City Council yesterday of using public money for political ends. Dame Jill Knight, MP for Edgbaston, told the Commons that the money was being used in "a blatant attempt to buy votes".

The charge followed recent allegations that party members had been allowed to jump queues for housing redevelopment grants in return for promising support for a candidate to replace Roy Hattersley, the MP for Sparkbrook, who is standing down at the next election. Labour has suspended four local parties in Birmingham and launched an internal investigation. Dame Jill, opening a short backbench debate on local government in Birmingham, urged the Nolan committee investigating standards in public life to look into the allegations.



Dame Jill: charges of sleaze in Birmingham

"There is no doubt that substantial amounts have been chiselled from [the council's] budget and misused," she said. "Other amounts have disappeared without trace. Furthermore, it now seems that large sums have been misappropriated to gain political advantage for the Labour Party in Birmingham."

She said that the lion's share of more than 800 grants had gone to areas that elected Labour councillors and MPs, including a grant worth £52,000 for a Labour councillor to repair his home. This, she said, "certainly appears to be a blatant attempt to buy votes". She added: "It's pretty sleazy to buy votes with your own money. It's very sleazy indeed to buy them with public money."

Roger Godsiff, Labour MP for Birmingham Small Heath whose seat disappears at the next election, said that the allegations in *The Observer* linking him to the distribution of grants, each worth up to £20,000, were not true.

The article suggested that Labour supporters had been given advice on how to fill out a form enabling them to jump the queue for housing grants. Mr Godsiff said he would make no apology for helping any constituents to receive their legal entitlements to housing grants. "It is their right, and if in doing so I offend some people on the city council because it causes problems with their system, then I'm sorry."

Frank Dobson, the Shadow Environment Secretary, said that Labour condemned wrongdoing wherever it occurred. "I don't know, and I think no one in this House knows, whether there has been wrongdoing in Birmingham," he said. "If there has been, it will be rooted out."

He said that after the allegations Labour had made an immediate report to the district auditor and the police and begun an internal investigation. This contrasted with the failure of any Tory to utter "a single harsh word" against councils such as Wandsworth and Westminster, which had faced similar allegations.

Sir Norman Fowler, MP for Sutton Coldfield, said that Labour's inquiry proved that it believed there was a case to be answered. But the public would not be satisfied with an internal investigation. "They must be satisfied these charges will be thoroughly, independently and fearlessly investigated," he said. "There must be no cover-up and no smokescreen."

IN PARLIAMENT

YESTERDAY: The Commons sat from 10am. MPs debated the management of Scottish wilderness, local government in Birmingham, land mines, the proposed closure of Hayley Green Hospital, and the cases of Patrick Kane, Sean Kelly and Michael Timmons in Northern Ireland.

After questions to environment ministers there were estimates debates on Trade and Industry Department support for the development of broadband communications and on administration relating to the Environment Department's retail planning policy. In the Lords, the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Bill had its second reading.

TODAY: In the Commons, Questions will be put to Northern Ireland ministers, followed by Questions to the Prime Minister. MPs will then debate all stages of the Commonwealth Development Corporation Bill. In the Lords, debates will be held on the Mental Health (Patients in the Community) Bill and the Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act (Continuance) Order.

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Enrique Davila González, the Spanish skipper, right, consults his lawyer during a court appearance in Newfoundland. He has been released on bail

EU claims victory over Canada in halibut war

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN STRASBOURG, AND MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

THE European Union last night declared victory in the fishing war with Canada, after the Canadian authorities unconditionally released the Spanish trawler, captured last week by Canadian gunboats in international waters.

Canada's gesture in the conflict over the Greenland halibut has opened the door for a round of multilateral negotiations, due to take place in Brussels next week, about fishing rights and the share-out of fishing quotas in the northwestern Atlantic.

The announcement was made last night by Emma Bonino, the European Fisheries Commissioner, who called the release of the *Estai* "a vindication of the stance taken by the European Commission and the Council of Ministers". In a statement unlikely to be appreciated in Ottawa, she said that "the Canadians are trying to be reasonable again".

The release of the *Estai* was the key condition, imposed by the EU, for the resumption of political dialogue with Canada. The Canadians had fulfilled the other condition, the release on bail of the *Estai*'s captain and crew. Signora Bonino said: "I can confirm we will begin the multilateral discussions, and I hope it will be a first step to solve the tensions." She insisted this did not mean that the EU recognised the legitimacy of the Canadian law, under which its authorities seized the *Estai* in international waters, 245 nautical miles off the coast of Newfoundland.

Signora Bonino said that the EU did not offer any concessions in return for the release of the *Estai*. She said that no undertaking had been given that Spanish boats would stop fishing for Greenland halibut in the area.

Britain hinted yesterday that the compromise had been helped by the active intervention of Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, who announced that he had telephoned his Canadian and Spanish counterparts, André Ouellet and Javier Solana, to urge them both to proceed through negotiations.

The dispute had put Britain in a difficult position as public opinion favoured the Canadians, but the Government felt obliged to support an EU partner. Officials were wary of suggesting that Mr Hurd had played a role as mediator, but it was clear that he had pressed hard for compromises in Madrid and Ottawa.

Mr Hurd said in a statement in London that the goal must be to conserve fish stocks effectively to allow fishermen from the EU and Canada a viable future. "Both sides should avoid action which makes a solution more difficult ... We will continue as a member of the Commonwealth and the EU to urge forward solutions to the immediate difficulties and to work towards an outcome acceptable to all."

In a speech earlier to the European Parliament, Signora Bonino responded to Canadian claims that the *Estai*'s catch was mainly made up of small fish by saying that the Canadians "ignored that there is no Nafo [Northwest Atlantic Fishery Organisation] limit on the size of the fish ... It is unacceptable that the Union is turned into a scapegoat because the Canadians have failed to manage their own resources effectively."

She added that Canada acted out of pure economic self-interest, and that the issue of conservation was being used as a mere smokescreen.

The Commission received wholehearted support from the main sections in the European Parliament. The European Peoples' Party, which also includes a tiny group of Tory MEPs, said the issue was "to what extent one can violate international law with impunity. Canada's action imperils the interests of all the countries of the union".

Trawlers plunder seas

By NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE world's fishing fleets are causing far more damage to fish stocks and the wildlife that depend on them than had previously been supposed, research shows.

Scientists have calculated that a third of the primary productivity of the earth's key fisheries is being creamed off by trawlers and factory fishing ships. Primary production is a measure of the oceans' ability to turn sunlight into food.

The intensity of the fishing, estimated at 120 million tonnes a year, is leaving too few fish behind to breed or to feed marine animals, including whales and birds.

Professor John Beddington, of Imperial College London's Centre for Environmental Technology, said yesterday that there was no hard and fast rule about a sustainable harvest, "but it seems to me fairly unlikely that the estimates being reported in this research can be sustained".

Diary of rebel with a cause

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

IT MAY sound like something out of Monty Python, but *The Motorcycle Diaries of Che Guevara* will soon reach bookshops on both sides of the Atlantic. It reveals the South American revolutionary as a youthful renegade with a taste for the open road, large quantities of alcohol, and his friends' wives.

The diary was written by Argentinian-born Ernesto Che Guevara when he was 23, and recounts a wild tour of South America in 1951 — a sort of *Easy Rider meets Das Kapital*.

The journal has hitherto remained secret, since it depicts the celebrated guerrilla leader and ally of Fidel Castro, the Cuban leader, as a rebel of a rather different stamp.

During his year-long tour, the lusty young Che seduces the wife of one of his best friends, drinks copious amounts of red wine and manages to oversleep while working as a fireman, with the result that a house burns down.

The book will be published in May.

Republicans bring in plan to cut taxes

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

REPUBLICANS yesterday moved forward with legislation to bring about America's biggest tax cuts in nearly 15 years. But formidable obstacles are ahead, including how to finance them — the Democrats claim the proposals will enrich the wealthy at the expense of the poor.

The Republican plan would cut taxes by $189 billion (£120 billion) over five years, with a middle-class reduction in tax liability of $500 for each child under 18 and other benefits. Newt Gingrich, the House Speaker, said the intention was to help families and boost economic growth. He insisted that the cuts could be paid for by spending reductions and without adding to the budget deficit. How is not clear, but severe pruning is proposed for social programmes for the poor.

In addition to congressional Democrats' objections, the Bill sent to the House by its Ways and Means Committee yesterday faces opposition from Republicans in the Senate, who are not convinced that the budget can be balanced if there are tax cuts, and from President Clinton, who would exercise his veto.

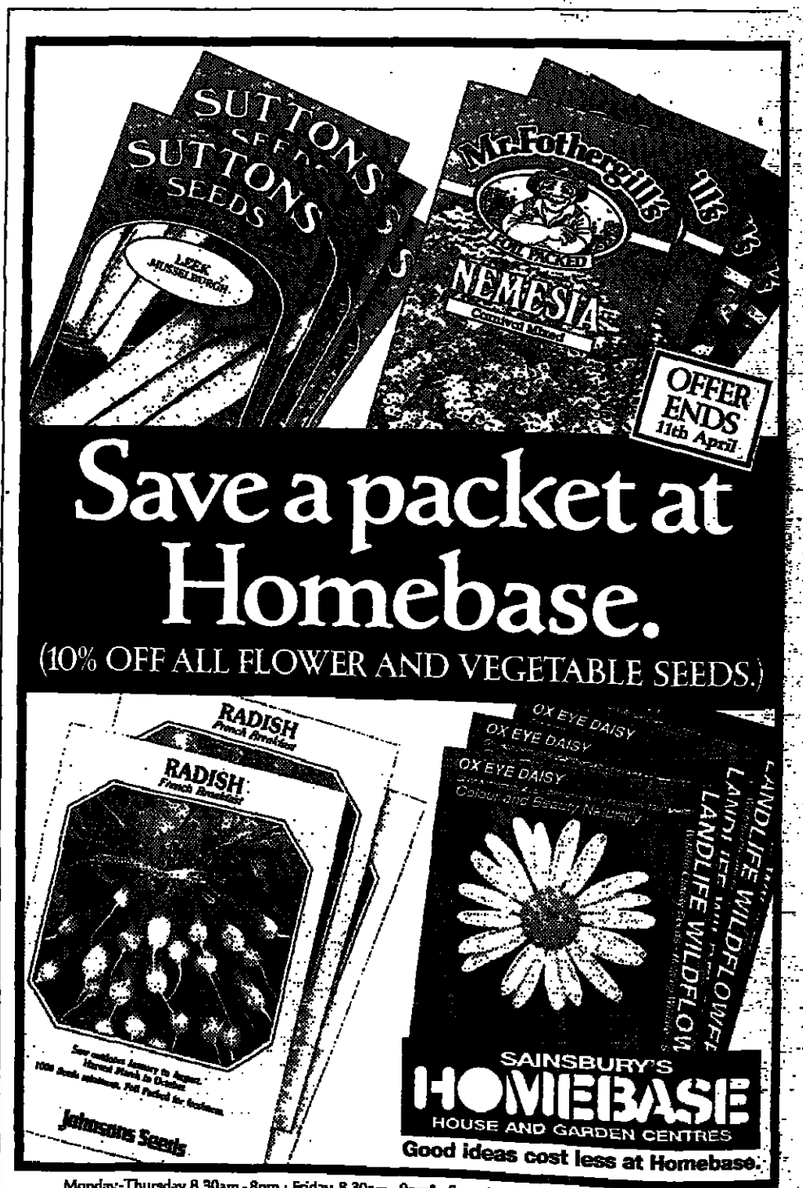
Mr Gingrich conceded the difficulties yesterday when he said: "This is going to be a very demanding Bill."

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Iran trade curbs urged in fight to end Rushdie fatwa

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

THE 34-nation Council of Europe yesterday voted unanimously to insist that European governments reject any closer trade or political relations with Iran until Tehran lifts the *fatwa* against Salman Rushdie.

The writer, who emerged from hiding to address the Parliamentary Assembly in London, was told by Miguel Martinez, the president of the assembly: "You represent the values that the Council of Europe stands for."

Fellow parliamentarians said the Rushdie case was about more than just one individual: it was a human rights issue that affected all governments, especially members of the Council.

Mr Rushdie said he did not need the sympathy of the assembly: he needed its solidarity. He was caught in a battle between freedom of speech and terrorist fanaticism, and saw himself less as a victim than as a combatant.

Sharply denouncing Britain for what he saw as government passivity in failing to put more pressure on Iran, Mr Rushdie told the assembly it was "incomprehensible" that his case had gone on so long. He said it was six years since Iran had attempted an act of state terrorism.

There was ample evidence of Tehran's involvement in political assassination. Yet apart from declarations of support for him, nothing had been done. Business was proceeding as usual.

"If we do not care, I wish we would just say so. Let's not pretend that our values are different. If we do think that this is a fundamental challenge to our values, let's do something about it. Now we have the worst of both worlds."

Mr Rushdie said Iran's government was weak, unpopular at home and beset by economic difficulties. It was not impervious to pressure. Yet the West had not put pressure on it. He said Britain's attitude appeared to be that nothing could be done until the regime changed.

Mr Rushdie several times thanked the Government and police for protecting him. But he said it had no idea how to end the situation. By contrast, he singled out Norway as a country which had taken a tough line, refusing to send an ambassador back to Tehran until the *fatwa* was lifted.

Mr Rushdie said his survival for six years since Ayatollah Khomeini's incitement to his murder had led people to think the *fatwa* was not real, or was losing its force.

However, he said, it was real, not a theoretical threat; his Japanese, Italian and Turkish translators and publishers of *The Satanic Verses* had been killed or wounded. They, and the booksellers who still stocked the books, were the real victims and real heroes in the confrontation with terrorism.

The motion of support for Mr Rushdie comes in the wake of growing concern in the Council of Europe over Muslim fundamentalism and the increase in threats to writers, intellectuals, and those with links to the West. A report on his case, debated yesterday, said his was not an isolated one.

"In countries where Muslim fundamentalists hold sway, hundreds of people are persecuted in similar ways for their views," it said. "The Assembly condemns such acts as constituting grave violations of the right to freedom of thought and expression guaranteed by Articles 9 and 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights."

Speakers yesterday told of the growing threat to human rights in Algeria, and cited the case of Taslima Nasreen as evidence that fundamentalist terrorism was active elsewhere. They insisted that the Council had no quarrel with Islam, or that there was anything inherently intolerant in that religion. But they said that no one should ignore the fact that it was in fundamentalist Islam that the greatest threat now lay. The two-day Parliamentary Assembly also condemned the sacking of Sergei Kovalyov as the Russian Human Rights Commissioner, and voted to send observers to Chechenia.

CHRIS HARRIS



Salman Rushdie: attacked the Government for failing to put pressure on Tehran

German strategist joins battle for Chancellor

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

THE first shot in the battle to succeed Helmut Kohl as the German Chancellor was fired yesterday by Wolfgang Schäuble, his right-hand man and an influential conservative strategist.

Herr Schäuble, 53, is the parliamentary floor leader of the ruling Christian Democrats and regularly launches initiatives on both domestic and European policy in an attempt to lift the Bonn Government out of its daily grind. Under normal circumstances the Swabian would be regarded as the natural successor to the Chancellor, who has promised that he will not stand for re-election in 1998. But Herr Schäuble has been paralysed from the waist and confined to a wheelchair since he was attacked by a mentally disturbed man in 1990. That has tended to discount Herr Schäuble from the leadership stakes.

In *Stern* magazine yesterday Herr Schäuble, who is the champion of a "hard core" federal Europe, emphasised that his physical handicap would not restrict his political effectiveness at the top. Any doubt that this was Herr Schäuble's way of throwing his hat in the ring was dispelled when the Christian Democrat press office took the unusual step of printing and distributing the interview in full two days before publication. "My body has adapted over the years to the injuries. I move more in the fresh air, I have a special bicycle that I use a lot. And I came through the election year [1994] in much better form than expected." He emphasised that he was in no hurry to replace the German leader. "On the other hand if I weren't able to cope with political leadership then I wouldn't be fulfilling my present job as chairman of the parliamentary party."



Schäuble: handicap no bar to leadership

If Herr Kohl keeps his promise to step down before the next parliamentary elections in 1998, he would have to hand over the baton at least a year earlier. After 16 years of Helmut Kohl, the party will need time to build up a credible successor. The chancellery has subtly altered course in anticipation of a handover.

It is focusing on two areas: building up an election machine that can be taken over by another driver; and on making a success (as defined by Bonn) of the Inter-Governmental Conference in 1996. The election calculations may seem premature but some changes demanded by the German leader — reforming, for example, the public television network that has often been critical of the Chancellor — need time.

The Maastricht follow-up Conference meanwhile has been declared a top priority. "It will be the Chancellor's great diplomatic swansong, and one of his prime claims to a role in history," said a diplomat who has been analysing the shifting agenda of the chancellery.

Herr Schäuble maybe the first in the field — and even the Chancellor's favourite — but other candidates are starting to jostle for position at the starting blocks. Kurt Biedenkopf, the Saxony Prime Minister who is a Christian Democrat economics professor with a lively mind, has set up a commission with the Bavarian Prime Minister, Edmund Stoiber, to analyse the future of Germany.

Another contender is Volker Rühe, the Defence Minister, who has understood that the Chancellor's departure from the stage will leave a huge foreign policy vacuum. He has been using his ministerial post to take on the mantle of key foreign policy strategist, much to the irritation of the real Foreign Minister, Klaus Kinkel.

Toll in Turkish clashes climbs

Istanbul: Police clashed with Alawite demonstrators for a fourth day yesterday, leaving four people dead and 20 injured in the latest violence stemming from an attack on the moderate Muslim community.

The clashes, which began on Sunday on the European side of the Bosphorus and have left more than 20 dead, spread yesterday to Umraniye, a district on the other side of the straits, which has pockets of Alawite residents. Authorities imposed a curfew on three streets in the area and one street in an adjacent neighbourhood. 31-T

The trouble started when police intervened to stop demonstrators from marching on a cultural centre, the semi-official Anatolian news agency said.

The four days of violence stems from an attack last Sunday in which gunmen, believed to be fundamentalist Sunni Muslims, shot dead three people in attacks at four cafés in Gazi, an Alawite district of Istanbul. Demonstrations began almost immediately, leaving more than 20 dead in clashes with police. The violence has spread to other cities, including Ankara, the capital. Private television channels have shown footage of policemen firing into a crowd of demonstrators. *(AFP)*

Dini faces close vote over budget

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

A KNIFE-EDGE vote in Italy's Chamber of Deputies today will decide the future of the Government of Lamberto Dini, the Prime Minister, in the face of opposition from Silvio Berlusconi, his predecessor.

Signor Dini called the vote yesterday on his mini-budget designed to cut government spending, presenting Signor Berlusconi's Forza Italia party and his ally, Gianfranco Fini, the "post-Fascist" National Alliance leader, with a stark choice between allowing the measures to pass without amendment or forcing the Government to resign, which would throw Italy into a financial crisis.

Signor Berlusconi's Freedom Alliance has been sniping at Signor Dini for weeks in a bid to precipitate a snap general election the Right's leaders believe it can win.

A handful of votes will decide the fate of the Government, which does not have a stable majority in the lower house.

Even if Signor Dini wins the vote his Government is unlikely to last beyond the autumn. Signor Berlusconi wants Signor Dini to introduce key pension reforms by decree with immediate effect and then resign so that President Scalfaro can call a general election for June.

Alliance studies Bosnia pull-out

BY MICHAEL EVANS DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

A NATO plan to send up to 40,000 troops to evacuate United Nations peacekeeping forces from Bosnia-Herzegovina was being studied by alliance ambassadors yesterday.

The withdrawal contingency plan, codenamed Operation Determined Effort, which would involve German combat troops in an out-of-area mission for the first time, was prepared because of growing fears that fighting in Bosnia could escalate once the ceasefire ends in about six weeks.

Under the plan, the Nato troops would come under the overall command of Admiral Leighton Smith, Commander-in-Chief of Allied Forces Southern Command, based in Naples. Lieutenant-General Bertrand Janvier, the French commander of all UN troops in the former Yugoslavia, would be his deputy.

The key Nato force, envisaged for a withdrawal of the 24,000 UN troops in Bosnia, would be the alliance's rapid reaction corps, commanded by Britain's Lieutenant-General Mike Walker.

Admiral Leighton-Smith said last week that an initial force would go into Bosnia to begin the withdrawal. A larger standby force would be on hand to move in at a moment's notice in the event of trouble.

The United States is expected to commit logistics capabilities and specialists for the operation. France would field about 9,000 men, half of whom would be members of UN units who would rid themselves of their blue berets to come under Nato command. Britain is expected to commit an even larger contingent. Fighter-bomber cover over Bosnia would include German Tornado aircraft, Nato sources said. Some 2,000 German combat troops would be sent to neighbouring Croatia. UN troops would leave through Croatian ports and airports.

It is not yet clear whether all the countries which have contributed to the UN force, including Russia and Ukraine, will agree to their soldiers withdrawing under Nato command.

SUMMARY

Export of landmines is curbed

London: New curbs on the export of landmines, intended to reduce an estimated worldwide death toll of 800 a month, were announced by the Government yesterday (Nicholas Wood writes). David Davis, a Foreign Office Minister, told MPs that Britain has banned the export of "non-detectable" anti-personnel mines with immediate effect.

Baroness Chalker, the Overseas Development Minister, announced another £1 million for mine clearance in Cambodia, bringing Britain's total contribution to £3 million.

Kazakh deputies on hunger strike

Moscow: Kazakh deputies, fighting the dissolution of their parliament at the weekend by President Nazarbayev, began a hunger strike yesterday and vowed to create an alternative assembly (Richard Beeston writes). The president dissolved parliament after a court ruled that last year's elections were illegal. He said he would rule by decree until new elections could be held. In Moscow the Duma passed a tough budget, clearing the way for economic reform.

Cyprus potato farmer starts fast

Nicosia: Chambis Chimonas, a local farmer imprisoned by a British court in Cyprus for ignoring an order not to cultivate potatoes near a firing range is on hunger strike and may die, relatives say. But a British spokesman said that although the farmer had not eaten anything since his detention last week, he was taking liquids and regularly saw a doctor. *(Reuter)*

Pope to visit Polish cities

Rome: The Pope is to visit the Czech Republic and his native Poland in May, the Vatican said, another sign that his health is improving after surgery. The Pope, 74, will travel to Prague and Olomouc in the Czech Republic and the three small cities of Skoczow, Bielsko-Biala and Zywiec in Poland. *(Reuter)*

World Court to pick first woman judge

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK



Rosalyn Higgins has experience of international law both as an academic and an advocate

A LAW professor at the London School of Economics, who represented Britain against Libya in a case stemming from the Lockerbie bombing, is destined to become the first woman to be elected as a judge of the World Court.

Diplomats say Rosalyn Higgins, 57, will be nominated to fill the traditional British seat on the 15-member bench when Sir Robert Jennings retires at the age of 81 on July 10. The United Nations Security Council is expected to hold a by-election for the post in the summer.

The result is considered a foregone conclusion because of the custom that the five permanent members of the Security Council, Britain, France, China, Russia and America, always have one judge each.

Mrs Higgins, the wife of the Conservative MP Terence Higgins, is regarded as superbly qualified for the post, having had experience of international law both as an academic and an advocate. Diplomats emphasised that Mrs Higgins would be elected on her merits and not because of any "affirmative action" to put a woman on the bench.

As well as serving as professor of international law at LSE, she has argued several important cases before the court, which sits in The Hague. Her most celebrated appearance came in the Lockerbie case, when, as Britain's counsel, she won a court decision refusing Libya relief from UN sanctions aimed at securing the surrender of two Libyans wanted for the bombing attack on PanAm 103 in 1988.

Mrs Higgins was educated at Burlington Grammar School in London and Girton College, Cambridge.

Oslo to cull seal pups

BY NICK NUTTALL

NORWAY'S six-year ban on seal hunting came to an end yesterday with the Government announcing plans to cull up to 2,600 seal pups this year.

The decision, which is expected to trigger fierce condemnation from animal welfare group, comes weeks after the Canadian authorities announced a relaxation of the rules on seal hunting. The Canadians and Norwegians have been traditional seal hunters and claim that animals also eat dwindling fish stocks.

The Norwegian Ministry of Fisheries said that the seal pups would be taken for "scientific purposes". Oslo said commercial hunting was not being resumed.



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Settlers protest as Israel resumes talks with Syria

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM AND ARTHUR LEATHLEY IN AMMAN

LEADERS of 13,000 Jews in 32 settlements on the occupied Golan Heights were planning a campaign of civil disobedience yesterday after the announcement from Damascus that Israel and Syria have agreed to resume the peace talks broken off in December.

The angry settlers, who claim that polls show majority support for their cause among Israeli Jews, fear that the Labour Government of Yitzhak Rabin is prepared to hand back the Golan Heights conquered in 1967 in exchange for a peace treaty before next year's general election.

Senior diplomats said that neither Israel nor Syria had made any substantial compromises in their widely differing negotiating positions to facilitate the resumption of talks, a move seen as a diplomatic victory for Warren Christopher, the American Secretary of State, who left Syria yesterday. He said that his eleventh shuttle had "turned out to be one of the most satisfying trips I have made to the Middle East".

Israeli and Arab commentators were cynical that the resumption of talks in Washington, at only ambassadorial level, signalled any real breakthrough. The mass-circulation Tel Aviv daily *Yediot Ahronot* concluded: "This was a big step for Christopher, who could not return home empty-handed again, but a small step for the peace process."

Shimon Peres, the Israeli Foreign Minister, denied that his country had given away too much in agreeing to hold direct talks with Syria. "We haven't given in," he said in Bonn. "We are opening negotiations on the security chapter and, as is well known, this is not the only chapter."

Mr Christopher's progress highlighted the relative success of America and the relative failure of the European Union in helping to shape the Middle East peace process. The European troika of France, Germany and Spain — led by Alain Juppé, the French Foreign Minister — visited Damascus last month on the first step on a Middle Eastern peace mission but made little headway.

Although fresh attempts will be made to forge a specifically European policy towards the Middle East during the Spanish presidency of the EU, Europe's efforts are mostly confined to gesture and offerings of modest aid.

Another important visitor this week was John Major, the first British Prime Minister to make the trip to Israel for nine years. When he left he promised the Palestinians a further £7 million in aid and some of Britain's biggest companies announced that they will set up technology parks in the Palestinian-controlled territories in the Gaza Strip and West Bank. The move was seen as an ambitious British contribution towards maintaining the fragile peace.

Businessmen from some of Britain's leading industrial, banking and retail companies returned yesterday from a four-day visit to Israel, the Gaza Strip and West Bank and Jordan, where Mr Major was leading a 27-strong trade delegation.

The technology park proposals will focus on setting up seven industrial complexes that will create employment opportunities for Palestinians, most of whom are now prevented from crossing into Israel. The scheme is aimed at prompting Israel to improve its infrastructure links with the Gaza area as well as giving Palestinians an easier trade route.

The Palestine Authority, which has control of the Gaza Strip, has complained that hundreds of lorries attempting to export fruit and flowers are left waiting at border crossing points until the produce is rotten.

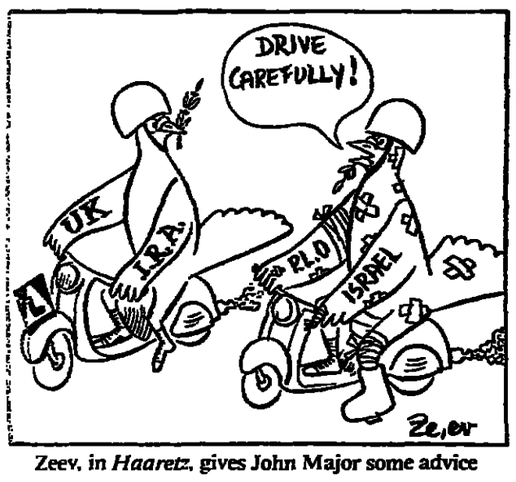
Richard Needham, the Trade Minister, yesterday called on British business to set up closer links with the occupied territories and, during the Middle East visit, put pressure on Israeli ministers to allow easier transport of Palestinian produce from the territories.

Among the British companies outlining proposals for technology parks are the construction firms Bovis, John Laing and Mivan. Other companies, including Marks and Spencer, will also be involved in drawing up proposals, aimed at setting up bottling and textile factories.

The businessmen who visited the Gaza Strip on Tuesday hope that the first park could be opened by summer 1996. They see Gaza as playing a pivotal role in ensuring that the peace agreement between the Palestinians and Israel can be continued and extended to Israel's Arab neighbours.



John Major at Hashimyh Palace in Amman yesterday, where he donated equipment for a water project



Zeev, in *Haaretz*, gives John Major some advice

Shin Bet's liberal head upsets Right

BY CHRISTOPHER WALKER

SHIN BET, Israel's equivalent of MI5, is in turmoil after last month's disputed appointment of a new director.

Israel Television reported in a rare item on the agency that six of the 12 departmental heads have resigned in protest at the appointment of the man who, because of censorship, may be referred to only as "K" — the initial of his first name. Many senior members of the organisation fear there will be a shift away from its traditional focus on Palestinians because the new director is an expert on right-wing Jewish groups and regarded as a liberal.

A security official confirmed five of the reported resignations and said they believed that "K", aged 44, and his deputy, "R", were not familiar enough with fighting terrorism in the occupied territories. Earlier, extreme right-wing Jewish nationalists had tried unsuccessfully to thwart the appointment by spelling out his name and address in graffiti in central Jerusalem and in telephone calls to journalists.

The campaign was seen by some Israelis as an attempt by right-wing extremists to leave the way open for the formation of new underground groups ready to launch attacks on Palestinians.

Experts on the Shin Bet, which has recently been accused of brutal interrogation practices, said that "K" was chosen not so much for his prowess in tracking down Jewish fanatics as in the hope that he might neutralise Islamic suicide bombers.

The final decision to go ahead with the appointment, despite the opposition, was taken by Yitzhak Rabin, the Prime Minister.

Police seek to ban eulogy for killer

BY OUR MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT

ISRAEL'S Labour Government was yesterday seeking urgent legal advice on banning a new 533-page book eulogising Baruch Goldstein, the New York-born Jewish settler who last year massacred 29 Palestinians praying in a Hebron mosque.

Former activists from the outlawed right-wing Jewish extremist group Kach claimed that the book, *Baruch, the Man*, had sold thousands of copies in the first 48 hours of publication.

The most contentious passage is a 26-page essay by Rabbi Ido Elba, from the settlement of Kiryat Araba where Goldstein lived, claiming that the biblical injunction "Thou Shalt not Kill", does not pertain to Jews who kill non-Jews who threaten them. "In war... it is a *mitzvah* (good deed) to kill every gentile from the nation that is fighting the Jew, even women and children," the Rabbi wrote.

Michael Ben-Yair, the Attorney General, instructed police to investigate the book — its publisher is not named — to see if it violates the law. Eric Bar-Chen, a police spokesman, said: "The question is whether they are writing things that can be construed as against the law, as inciting illegal activity."

Publication of the book has angered Palestinian officials, at a time when the peace process is going through a difficult period. Calling on the Government to stop its circulation, Mutawakel Taha, of the new Palestinian Information Ministry, said: "It is clear that it is urging Jews to massacre Arabs because when you praise killers, it means you are praising their deed."

Bonn to help pay for dams

Bonn: Germany is to help the European Union to finance the building of dams on the Jordan and Yarmuk rivers to ease the water shortage around Amman, the Jordanian capital (Roger Boyes writes). John Major has presented the Jordanian Government with British engineering equipment for testing underground water sources.

The move was announced during talks in Bonn yesterday between Manuel Marine, a European Commissioner, Shimon Peres, the Israeli Foreign Minister, and Crown Prince Hassan of Jordan.

Record number of reporters die

New York: A record number of reporters worldwide were killed or jailed for their work last year, including 19 slain in Algeria and 74 imprisoned by Turkey, a journalism group said yesterday.

The 72 reporters killed included 14 who died in war zones in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Somalia, Angola, Chechenia and Rwanda, the Committee to Protect Journalists said. Another 15 reporters were victims of ethnic massacres in Rwanda. *(AP)*

Shipyard denies Estonia blame

Frankfurt: The German shipyard that built the *Estonia* ferry, which sank last September in the Baltic Sea killing more than 800 people, denied any blame for construction faults. A partial report has blamed weak door locks and weak steel in the bow visor among reasons for the disaster. A lawyer for the shipyard rejected these causes and said that the vessel apparently struck an object. *(AP)*

Vatican exhibits rare Hebrew text

Jerusalem: The Vatican has put on display at the book fair here the oldest-known bound volume in Hebrew, an 8th-century commentary on the Book of Leviticus following the launch of diplomatic relations last year. The Dead Sea Scrolls, although written earlier in ancient Hebrew, are not bound. *(AFP)*

Menem son dies

Buenos Aires: Carlos Menem Jr, the son of Argentina's President, has died in hospital after a helicopter crash. He was 25. Mr Menem suffered a fractured skull and doctors said he had several heart attacks before he died. *(Reuter)*

Stolen art found in Jerusalem

Jerusalem: Paintings and drawings by Van Gogh, Picasso, Matisse and Degas, taken by armed robbers in Paris last month, have been found by police in Israel (Christopher Walker writes).

Eric Bar-Chen, the chief Israeli police spokesman, said last night that six of the missing masterpieces were discovered in a car in Jerusalem last Saturday and eight others in the rented Tel Aviv home of one of the two passengers, Marc Sibbon, 53, a Frenchman. He and another occupant of the car, Muriel Ben Harish, 48, an Israeli art dealer, are in custody. Mr Bar-Chen said that final authentication of the artworks, believed to be worth millions of pounds, was being urgently conducted by local experts. "We received an anonymous telephone call on Saturday about a suspicious Mercedes in Jerusalem," he said. "We intercepted the vehicle and were surprised to discover six masterpieces inside."

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Yale University talks itself out of $20m donation

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

A TEXAS billionaire has asked Yale University to return a $20 million (£12.3 million) gift intended to bolster the teaching of Western civilisation, after criticism from faculty members who wanted the money to be spent promoting a more "multicultural" approach to history teaching.

Lee Bass, an oil magnate, noted philanthropist and Yale graduate, gave the money in 1991 on condition that it was used to teach students about the great works of Western art, literature and philosophy. Some liberal faculty members, however, complained that Yale already offers numerous courses on the works of "dead white males", and most of the money remained in a bank for four years while the university debated how it should be spent.

Finally Mr Bass, 38, lost patience at the continuing delay and demanded the right to approve teachers for the courses. This week Richard Levin, the president of Yale, said that the university could not submit to those conditions and agreed to refund the money, with interest.

"Returning this gift is the right thing to do," Mr Levin said, while insisting, "Yale's delay in launching the course had nothing to do with its content." Mr Bass said that the decision to return the money was "mutual".

Conservatives, however, have complained that the planned European history course was effectively sabotaged by liberals who wanted a more politically correct teaching agenda focusing on women and minorities.

"The course was simply not put in place," Christopher Long, of the Intercollegiate Studies Institute, told *Newsday*. "Meanwhile, new programmes have been put in place, like gay studies."

The loss of Mr Bass's donation, one of the largest made to Yale, has come as severe blow to the university, which is running at a $12 million budget deficit. Anger generated by the fate of the donation has had an effect on other potential donors. Another Yale graduate, Robert Eskridge, had intended to give $500,000 but is reconsidering his offer. "Academic freedom is being wiped out by a radical faculty who have an agenda of their own, of multiculturalism," Mr Eskridge said.

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Nobel prizewinner escaped Argentine navy 'death flights'

BY DAVID ADAMS, LATIN AMERICA CORRESPONDENT

REVELATIONS by Adolfo Perez Esquivel, the Argentine winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, have added weight to new evidence that the country's former military dictatorship killed hundreds of torture and kidnap victims by dumping them into the the sea from aircraft.

Señor Perez Esquivel has decribed how he was arrested for his work as a human rights activist in 1977, put in chains and forced to board a navy aircraft by four policemen. At the last minute he was spared, but, according to evidence provided for the first time last week by an Argentine military officer, as many as 1,500 to 2,000 people were killed on weekly "death flights" arranged by the Navy.

The detailed account provided by Adolfo Scilingo, a retired Argentine Navy commander, has reopened old wounds in the "dirty war" conducted by the country's military dictatorship against suspected leftists.

At least 14,000 people are believed to have died during the campaign of repression which peaked in the late 1970s. However, many victims "disappeared" and the bodies were never returned to their families. The relatives of missing people are now learning the awful truth for the first time, confirming long-held suspicions of how the military disposed of the bodies.

"At the time, we knew prisoners were dumped in the sea," Señor Perez Esquivel said. "I, too, thought that my time was up but apparently my captors received orders to the contrary at the last minute."

Señor Scilingo is the first former Argentine military officer to admit to participating in the flights. He said that in 1977 he was ordered to push 30 prisoners out of planes flying over the Atlantic. The prisoners were alive but unconscious, after being drugged before boarding the plane.

Señor Scilingo said that many of the victims were so weak from torture and lengthy detention that they had to be helped on to the aircraft. They were injected with a sedative by Navy doctors before being stripped and pushed to their deaths.

However, the former naval officer told *The New York Times* that he was not repentant. "I don't repent because I am convinced that I was acting under orders and that we were fighting a war," he said. Under a broad pardon granted by President Menem to military officers accused of human rights abuses, the senior officers responsible for ordering the mass executions, are immune from prosecution. Señor Menem has defended the pardons as necessary to safeguard democracy and to avert unrest in military ranks, which led to three barracks uprisings in the 1980s. The military has refused to comment on Señor Scilingo's confession. Señor Perez Esquivel, 63, was honoured by the Nobel Committee in 1980 for his human rights work in Latin America as head of the Peace and Justice Service group. The military dictatorship did not end until 1983.



Adolfo Perez Esquivel, centre, leads a march during a protest fast in 1983

Cardinal 'murdered'

MEXICAN authorities are investigating evidence that the death of a Roman Catholic cardinal two years ago was an assassination and not accidental, as previously believed (David Adams writes).

Cardinal Juan Jesús Posadás Ocampo, Mexico's second highest Roman Catholic cleric, died outside Guadalajara airport on May 24, 1993. His chauffeur and five bystanders were also killed.

The new evidence could discredit several existing theories put forward by previous government investigators, one of which was that the cardinal was unwittingly caught in the crossfire of rival drug cartels at war. But, as in two other high-profile Mexican murder cases under investigation, public opinion and the church hierarchy were unconvinced by the official explanations.

The Guadalajara shooting was the first of three prominent unsolved killings in little more than a year. The other two victims were Luis Donaldo Colosio, the presidential candidate for the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party, and José Ruiz Massieu, its deputy leader.

Japan rejects Briton's claim of jail abuse

FROM GWEN ROBINSON IN TOKYO

A TOKYO court yesterday rejected a claim by Sigrun Kai Falkinn, 34, from Eastbourne, for ten million yen (£70,000) in damages for abuse he allegedly suffered while he was awaiting trial at the Tokyo detention centre.

His case is nevertheless likely to draw greater attention to the flaws in Japan's prison system, fuelling growing criticism by international human rights groups and claims of abuse by other former inmates.

Mr Falkinn was arrested in December 1990 on suspicion of helping his brother to rob a grocery shop in Tokyo. The trial proceedings dragged on for 15 months, during which time he claims he suffered repeated physical and mental torture at the hands of prison guards at the centre.

Mr Falkinn, who is a British citizen but took his Icelandic name from his mother's side of the family, was eventually found not guilty. His brother was convicted and served a prison sentence.

After his acquittal in March 1992, Mr Falkinn claimed ten million yen in compensation from the Japanese Justice Ministry, alleging that he was physically and psychologically abused and denied access to the British Embassy during his detention. He described the detention centre as a "living hell" in which he was subjected to varying degrees of torture and treated "like a brute animal".

He said: "The violence started when I answered back to a prison warden. He told me to take my feet off the bed and I replied in Japanese, 'Don't speak to me like a pig. I'm a human being'." Mr Falkinn claims that two guards then dragged him out of his cell. In the ensuing struggle he fell against a window-pane, cutting his face, wrist and foot. Then he was pushed into a small cell, where a wet towel was forced into his mouth and he was stripped and beaten before being taken to the prison hospital to have his wounds stitched.

For the next seven months he was kept in solitary confinement in a tiny cell with no windows or furniture apart from a chamber pot. He said that all he could do was crouch all day long. "The smell was foul and the floor crawled with cockroaches, spiders and other insects," he told an interviewer.

His complaints, however, were rejected by Hisao Sato, the presiding judge in the Tokyo district court. The judge said that there was no confirmed evidence of violence against Mr Falkinn. Mr Falkinn is unlikely to appeal the decision, according to Kazuyo Sakuragi, his lawyer.

Peking rules out Tibet referendum

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN PEKING

A REFERENDUM on the future of Tibet, proposed by the Dalai Lama, is out of the question, a leading Tibetan Communist Party official said in Peking yesterday.

Speaking during the annual uncomfortable exercise to justify the continued Chinese occupation, Mr Raidi said that a referendum was only "a new trick by the Dalai clique and anti-Chinese Western forces to split China".

Clearly ill at ease and sweating profusely, with his face contorted and lips pursed, Mr Raidi — he has only one name — the Tibetan People's Congress leader, said: "The Tibet autonomous region is under the sovereignty of China so the question of the holding of a referendum does not arise as Tibet is an inalienable part of China."

Yesterday's session came during the final days of the annual sitting of China's rubber-stamp parliament, the National People's Congress, and is the only event of the year during which Chinese officials seem at least slightly discomfited. Mr Raidi said that under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party, the 2.3 million Tibetan people "are living in contentment and happiness".

He continued: "Once the Dalai Lama renounces his position of Tibetan independence and entirely stops all these activities aimed at splitting China, the central government will be happy to see him putting an end to self-exile and come back to China to do something good and useful for the prosperity and happiness of the Tibetan people."

In a statement last week, the Tibetan spiritual leader told his countrymen to prepare for a worldwide referendum to decide on the future course of the struggle against Chinese rule. He indicated that, whether the Chinese authorities approved or not, secret votes would also be cast in Tibet. He warned that Peking's failure to negotiate with him could lead to violence by frustrated Tibetans.

THE TIMES

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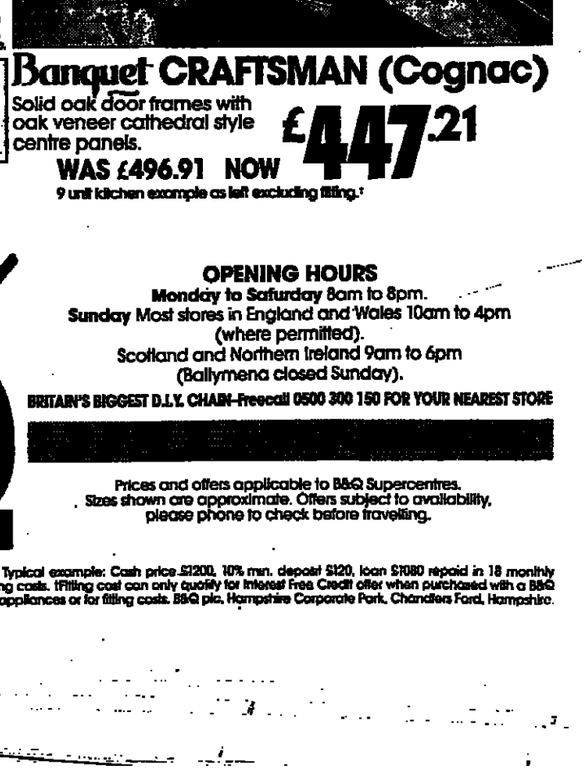


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Joanna Pitman meets the chartered surveyor who will be kicking for England on Saturday

The boys' own hero in a city suit

CHRIS HARRIS



Rob Andrew at work: last week he flew home from a three-day business trip and went straight to rugby training

Robert Andrew, chartered surveyor, associate director of DTZ Debenham Thorpe, marches crisply into his office reception, head thrown back, hands in pockets, starched collar, razor-sharp creases — a quintessential City Suit with an air of inescapable purpose. Could it be something to do with the £400 million-worth of international property deals that he and his team intend to clinch by the end of the year?

Andrew has a reputation as a safe pair of real-estate hands. A Cambridge graduate, he is a good, sober player who can be relied upon to broker a tidy deal under pressure, and then follow up with the sort of judicious mix of joshing and banter that cements client relationships and bonds an office team together.

> 'Saturday morning is nerve-racking. There's no turning back'

But this week will be different. At lunchtime yesterday, Andrew slipped out of the office and checked into an hotel in Richmond, charcoal-grey pinstripes abandoned in favour of a tracksuit and trainers. The chartered surveyor will by now have transformed himself into his more familiar incarnation as the stand-off half of the England rugby team, the 62-times capped hero of thousands of English rugby fans.

Until the match on Saturday when England play Scotland at Twickenham, Andrew will effectively be in quarantine with his team-mates, going through the motions of last-minute training, tribal bonding and the delicate process of building team confidence.

By now the barometer of tension will have begun to rise. "The build-up this week to Saturday is going to be immense," Andrew says. "I do get nervous but I have to control my nerves. In the heat of the battle you have to be individually and collectively very much in command."

The pressures this week will be exacting, not least because Andrew insists on keeping in touch with his office and monitoring the progress of deals in Singapore or Hong Kong. Last week he was abroad on business for three days, returned on Saturday and went directly from the airport to the rugby pitch for training. He snatched a few hours with his wife Sara and their four-year-old daughter, Emily, that evening, but was back training again all day Sunday. By 8.30am on Monday he had performed another Clark Kent transformation and was back at his DTZ desk, all spruce silk tie and serious spectacles.

Andrew is a man of rigorous and unforgiving high standards who has trained himself brutally to compartmentalise his life. "When I leave the office and I'm on the pitch I really have to leave it all behind and put everything into the game. I try to work hard and play hard, and after a weekend of rugby I'm rather glad to be getting on the Tube again to go into the office."

What about Emily and Sara? His wife will be sitting at home on Saturday, eight and a half months pregnant, praying that her husband is not going to get mauled, kicked and socked in the teeth. "Sara has been very understanding because there's such a huge commitment involved. As I get older [Andrew is 32] the pressures grow from all sides. My career becomes more serious, my family responsibilities grow and rugby standards keep rising, so I have to train harder and harder. But I get so much enjoyment out of it I've just had to learn to cope with the pressures."

Rugby is Andrew's religion, and a Calvinistic religion at that. He has devised for himself a systematic programme of non-stop "hardening" exercises, run at a blistering pace. He is a natural athlete, effortlessly good at all ball games, and could probably have played for England in several different sports. He was captain of cricket at Cambridge and, even then, stood out in the crimson colours of St John's College as some kind of special sporting being — his physique is the athletic ideal of a long, inverted pyramid, broad shoulders narrowing to a slender waist and long, steely legs. By the time he graduated, in 1985, he was playing rugby for England, and his darting heels, will-o'-the-wisp figure and impish grin made him an early idol.

But Andrew is also, as everyone says, such a nice guy, always genial.

He is a real man's man, always ready with barroom conviviality. There is something earthy about him that makes you think of cheese and beer. His face is open and good-humoured, yet control is his thing and those broad grins mask a steely nerve. Even his eyebrows have muscles.

He controls the interview just as he controls his three-tiered life. Not a minute can be wasted when there is an hour and a half of training to be done four or five evenings a week, playing with his club — Wasps — on Saturday afternoons and with the England squad on Sundays. And that's an easy week.

You can picture him now immersed in that exclusive world of bonding and brawn with the smell of liniment and fear. By the time the deafening roar rises from the stands as the England squad sprint out on to the pitch on Saturday afternoon, they will have conquered that fear and be imbued with an unassailable certainty of victory.

"Saturday morning is the most nerve-racking time. There's no turning back and the stomach is really churning. You need the adrenalin but you need to control it. If you hold together and haven't become a nervous wreck by the time the whistle blows, you're all right."

If they win on Saturday Andrew will be released with the rest of them into a torrent of exuberance, bawdy songs rising from the steaming showers and buckets of beer guzzled at speed. But you get the impression that Andrew will still, even then, retain that tiny controlling edge — not too much drink, not too much larking. Because by Monday morning he will be back at his DTZ desk, the family man carrying a briefcase chockful of responsibilities.

Could you ring back a bit later, Mr Clinton?

Martin Fletcher on how Presidents simply do not fail to get connected

THE CELEBRATED White House switchboard operators boast of their ability to track down anyone anywhere at any time, but after five days they were still struggling to connect America's President with Britain's Prime Minister last night.

British and American officials trotted out a bewildering array of reasons for Bill Clinton's sustained failure to connect with John Major. They claimed it was because the Prime Minister was travelling in the Middle East, though Mr Clinton first tried to call Mr Major last Saturday when he was at home in Huntingdon. They claimed the lack of a secure line, that the two men's diaries would not "gel", and that "talks between world leaders take time to set up".

All of that is, of course, utter balderdash. The American President has one of the world's most sophisticated communications systems constantly at his side, and Downing Street's is hardly a string with a can on the end.

Marlin Fitzwater, the former White House spokesman, remembers receiving a call from the White House in 1986 while rafting down the Lijiang river in China with George Bush, then Vice-President. Women were washing their clothes on rocks on the riverbanks. "There was at least 2000 years of civilisation between those women and my satellite telephone," he said.

He remembers, before the Gulf War, standing in a "chow" line in the Saudi desert with President Bush when they learnt of Margaret Thatcher's resignation. Within minutes Mr Bush was commiserating with her by telephone. He remembers Mr Bush conducting delicate pre-Gulf War diplomacy from his golf cart in Kennebunkport or while fishing from his speedboat out at sea.

During the Cold War, fearing a sudden Soviet nuclear attack, the US Army Signals Corps developed a system that ensured America's President was never more than two minutes from a telephone, and that system persists today.

There are telephones on trees in the woods around Camp David for when the President goes jogging. Whenever he walks anywhere he is followed by a military officer bearing a suitcase with a collapsable satellite dish and secure telephone.

Air Force One is equipped with no fewer than 85 telephones, not to mention other sorts of secure communications networks and back-up systems, and bristles with 55 antennas. A normal Boeing 747 has 17.

Back in the Oval Office he has his "hotlines" to other world capitals. The White House even has two switchboards, the one the public knows about and a second used only by officials so it is never jammed. The latter can "patch" calls through to the President wherever he may be.

On those rare occasions when the President cannot reach a foreign counterpart there is always a good reason. For three days in February 1994 Mr Clinton was quite unable to reach Boris Yeltsin at his dacha outside Moscow.



"Major. That's M-A-J-O-R."

At first it was thought the Russian President was furious about some Nato decision on Bosnia, but US officials later concluded Mr Yeltsin was on one of his drinking binges.

Occasionally, said Mr Fitzwater, a foreign leader would not take a call from the President because he was still formulating his position on an issue, but in the case of Mr Clinton and Mr Major this week that would be "the generous view. The less generous view is that there are other reasons why they don't want to talk. It does seem President Clinton has been a little insensitive to the views of the United Kingdom."

THE DIPLOMATIC world is famous for its euphemisms. Spies are expelled for "activities incompatible with their diplomatic status". When leaders have had a "full and frank exchange of views" you know they have nearly come to blows. Mr Major and Mr Clinton have now coined a new one — "we tried to speak by telephone but couldn't get through".

Translated, it means the Prime Minister was livid at Mr Clinton's support for Sinn Fein's Gerry Adams and was damned if he was going to let the President soft-soap him on the phone.

The man who makes a thriller out of a crisis

Julia Llewellyn Smith meets Gerald Seymour, for whom a war is raw material

MARTIN BEDDALL



Into action: Gerald Seymour devotes a month each year to research

Gerald Seymour, the thriller writer, is the kindest, most decent of men, whose dearest wish would be to see a New World Order of milk and honey, love and harmony. But that didn't stop him spending the past 14 months praying for war to continue in the Balkans.

"I have sweated," he says, leaning forward confidingly in the smart Westminster restaurant, crammed with the mandarins he describes so knowingly. "It would have been a disaster if peace had broken out. It wouldn't have done at all."

Ruthless, but forgivable, given that two years ago Seymour, a former ITN reporter, had travelled to Croatia and on into the killing fields known as Sector North, to research his latest novel, *The Heart of Danger*.

He started writing in August and submitted it to his publishers in December 1993. "The problem is I never tell them where I'm going next and so they didn't have a slot for me, because they were going all out on Danielle Steel or whoever. So I just had to sit and hope that nothing changed, because I would have looked very stupid indeed."

Luckily for him, the bloodthirstiness is unsated and atrocities still flourish in that obscure corner of Europe. It may not last for long, though. Seymour has a Nostradamus reputation (his novel *Condition Black* about the invasion of Kuwait and selling of nuclear secrets to Iraq was published on the day the Gulf War started), but in fact his attentions are an augury of instant glasnost.

"Yes, in 1985 I was in Magdeburg in the DDR where there wasn't even a restaurant for foreigners to eat in. Look at it now. There was Afghanistan, northwest frontier, in 1982. There was South Africa and northern Israel. In 1990 I was at Aldermaston, which was the most secret of places. Now they probably take busloads of Japanese tourists round."

And then there is Northern Ireland, the subject of his most emotive novels, including his first, the bestselling *Harry's Game*. "Yes, I thought Ulster would see me through," he sighs. "But not to worry. Just because the Berlin Wall has come down doesn't mean we will all live happily ever after. Conflicts will keep going for ever."

And so will Seymour, 53, a tall, pink-faced and endearingly nervous man whose sales figures (4 million novels worldwide) have done nothing to calm a raw neurosis. He lives on a 50-acre estate in Somerset, he has been compared to Eric Ambler and Graham Greene, but he still relies on a terror of humiliation to keep the adrenalin pumping and the words churning. He can quote the past 20 years' reviews verbatim, and agonises, in rambling sentences quite different from his spare prose, over the merest hint of dissent. "Oh, I know I've been successful in the past, but that won't help the next time. I know that each new novel will be the one where they say 'Oh dear, silly old codger's finally lost it.' "

Well they haven't said so yet, and *Heart of Danger* is every bit as moving and informative as any of the past 14 novels. Seymour's gift is to be able to dump his readers in the heart of any world crisis, give them a briefing that replaces a year's worth of *Newsnights* and then zoom in on a set of characters straight out of *Casablanca*.

"The modern thriller is the sequel to the western," says Seymour. "They take me back to being aged 12, and coming out of the cinema having seen *Shane* with a little choke in my throat. They are big, simple, black and white stories."

Not that black and white, actually. *The Heart of Danger* vibrates with ambiguity, as Penn, the hero, risks his life in an act of just revenge, oblivious to its effect on cynical political compromise. The Army refused to co-operate with the filming of *Harry's Game* because the novel was thought to be too sympathetic to the IRA.

And in Seymour's world the good tend to die young. When he submitted that first novel to HarperCollins there was much debate about the tragic ending. Seymour giggles. "My editor was deputed to ask if I minded if Harry was only shot and wounded. I said I did mind. He said 'critically wounded?' No. (Pleadingly) 'Brain damaged?'"

Seymour knows that the gloomy endings will never put him in the Archer sales bracket. "I don't try to write easy books," he says defensively. "I try to shock people's emotions." He relents occasionally, but only if working conditions are absolutely perfect. Pity his characters if the electrician calls while he is writing.

Ideally, Seymour sits in his shed, blinds drawn, and makes "decisions, decisions, decisions" about what is going to happen next. "There's no coasting. At the end of the day you have pains and aches." Each April is spent on a "trip", to research the next book. "That's the only window I can find between the end of the home international rugby season and the beginning of the Test match."

He had no illusions about a writer's life. His father, William Seymour Keane, was the Woodbine-smoking manager of the Midland Bank on the King's Road, Chelsea, and chairman of the Poetry Society. His mother, Rosemary Wade, wrote more than 40 novels. "I do remember an awful lot of angst, jealousies, pain about reviews. I saw a writer's life as rather miserable and soul-destroying."

With that in mind, their son read history at University College London and upon graduating was offered a job at ITN, on the basis that the cricket team lacked a good bowler and Seymour was a master of the googly. Within a week he was covering the Great Train Robbery and for 15 years was a "fireman", reporting from trouble spots. "Oh, it was all wonderful Boy Scouts in short trousers stuff," he smiles, misty-eyed. "It was all very selfish, I was away for six months of the year. My wife brought up our two sons alone."

Harry's Game was written in lunchbreaks and even when its creator had to seek tax exile status in Rome, he continued to regard writing as a hobby. "The worst word is my vocabulary is formula. Once your work become formulaic you are going down the slope. If I stop for a second, I'll die of boredom."

● The Heart of Danger *(HarperCollins, £14.99)*

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☐ More effective shingles treatment ☐ Smoking's link with diabetes ☐ Hormone replacement therapy without bleeding

Painful legacy of chickenpox



MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

VALTREX, a modification of the drug Zovirax (acyclovir), marketed by Wellcome, has been introduced this month for the treatment of shingles. The prescribing guide *Mims* reports that although Valtrex is taken only three times a day, as opposed to five times daily with Zovirax, it is better absorbed, acts faster, is more effective, and causes fewer important side-effects.

Contrary to the fears of an earlier generation, the patient's life is not in peril should the bands of the blistering rash of shingles meet to form a continuous belt around the body. Death from shingles must be exceptionally rare, but having an attack can be unpleasant.

It is not only painful and unsightly but can cause residual pain and post-herpetic depression. Every year, 6,000 patients are driven to seek specialist advice from a hospital consultant because of these, and other, complications of the condition.

Shingles, one of the herpes family of diseases, is the result of the re-activation of the chickenpox virus, varicella-zoster, which has lurked in a dormant state in the patient's posterior root ganglia of the spinal cord ever since a childhood attack of chickenpox.

Sometimes the virus is activated by obvious damage to the posterior ganglia, but more often the stimulus is provided by an overall deterioration in the patient's general health.

The same harpies who waited with relish to see if the rash would meet in the middle also took a morbid delight from speculating on the possible reasons why the victim might be run down. Was he or she overworking? Were they drinking too much? Were domestic stresses and strains causing sleeplessness and tiredness? Was it a warning that some other debilitating disease, possibly cancer, lay hidden in the patient?

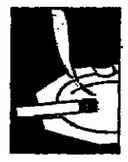
The harbingers of doom were not mistaken; all these situations can precipitate an attack of shingles but often the cause is unknown.

Shingles can strike whenever the body's immune system is compromised, so although it can occur at any age, it tends to be more commonly found in the older age groups in whom the system is less robust.

It is easy enough to diagnose shingles when the distinctive red rash — which soon becomes blistered and later scabby — appears. The difficulty is to recognise the disease in its early stages when the patient merely complains of feeling unwell and suffers inexplicable, localised pain which can be mistaken, depending on its site, for pain from a disc lesion, appendicitis, diverticulitis, gall bladder disease or pneumonia. Only when the rash appears is the truth revealed.

Shingles should be treated as a neurological rather than a dermatological disease. Early treatment within 72 hours of the rash appearing will lessen the chances of developing serious problems of post-shingles pain and post-shingles depression. This is particularly important in older patients, in whom there is a high incidence of persistent pain and post-herpetic misery. It is also essential if there is any suggestion of the face or eyes being involved.

Cigarette risk



THE list of side-effects of cigarette smoking continues to grow. It is now almost universally accepted that it is a risk factor in the aetiology of cancer of the lung, mouth, oesophagus, cervix and bladder, and that it is involved in heart disease and peptic ulcer. Its close relationship with diabetes has not previously been exposed, but now a survey has shown a clear correlation between them.

A study in Boston, Massachusetts, of 42,000 men between the ages of 40 and 75 found that those who smoked 25 or more cigarettes a day were twice as likely to develop non-insulin dependent diabetes than controls.

Another survey, by physicians from the Royal Free Hospital, London, published in the *British Medical Journal*, found that to avoid diabetes it helps if you have a slow pulse, sound coronary blood vessels, no gouty tendency, and are not overweight.

The good news is that a modest dose of alcohol each day, between 16 and 42 units — a range which accommodates a half a bottle of claret a day — seems to protect against diabetes. In fact, alcohol taken in reasonable amounts provided better protection than moderate physical exercise, which is also helpful.

HRT helper



THERE are two interesting developments in gynaecological medicine this week.

A new hormone replacement therapy (HRT), the first combined pill to be licensed for continuous daily use, has been launched by Novo Nordisk. Kliofem is an HRT pill with a difference because the vast majority of women who take it will not find that monthly bleeding starts again; though 25 per cent will have some initial spotting, this usually clears within six months.

General Practitioner magazine reports that Kliofem is suitable only for women who have had no periods for at least a year.

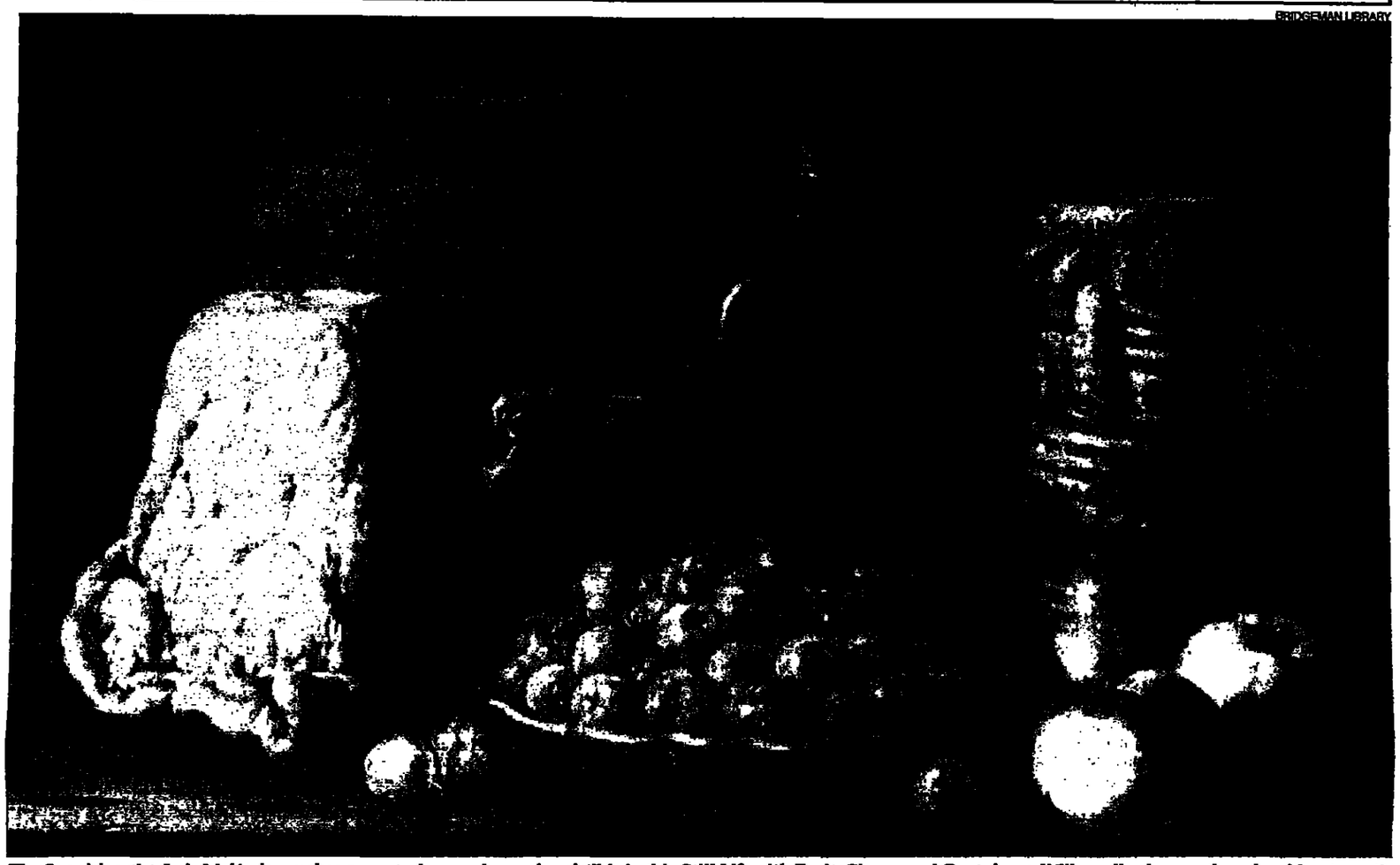
The absence of any resumption of periodic bleeding when taking Kliofem should encourage women to persevere with their HRT; at the moment, the drop-out rate within a year or two of starting HRT is unacceptably high. Many women refuse long-term treatment because their periods return; not only because of the inconvenience but also, possibly, because there is an almost subconscious feeling that regular bleeding is a problem of, and sign of, youth and is inappropriate in late middle-age. They perhaps feel that they are dishonestly assuming the mantle of a younger woman. Like other HRT preparations, Kliofem can give rise to symptoms similar to the pre-menstrual syndrome.

The other news is that Depo-Provera, a slow-release contraceptive about which there was considerable controversy when it was introduced, has now officially been approved as a first-line option for women who want long-term contraception: previously it was recommended only for those in whom other methods are unsuitable.

When a child gives up meat

Should parents worry about the impact of a strict vegetarian diet?

Dr Trisha Greenhalgh reports



BRIDGEMAN LIBRARY

The Spanish artist, Luis Meléndez, makes a vegetarian meal seem irresistible in this *Still Life with Fruit, Cheese and Containers*. Will you live longer, though, without meat?

More and more perfectly ordinary people, particularly among the young, are giving up meat. The Vegetarian Society claims that 2,000 people every week are converted to the humanitarian, economic, spiritual, and physiological advantages of a meat-free diet.

Despite eating turkey at Christmas and black pudding when pregnant, for the past 20 years I have stuck to my (predominantly) meat-free and high-pulse diet because I believe it is healthier. But am I justified in this belief? Should parents worry or be pleased when their children follow the trend and turn against meat?

The scientific literature on the subject is difficult to interpret. People who do research into the putative benefits of vegetarianism often have firm ideological views before they start. In one study the vegetarian contingent was recruited largely or entirely from Seventh Day Adventists, most of whom hail from affluent parts of America and whose religious faith also forbids alcohol and tobacco.

One of the more credible research studies, conducted by a group of Oxford epidemiologists with no particular religious, moral or cultural axe to grind, recruited 6,000 vegetarians through the British Vegetarian Society and asked each of them to nominate a meat-eating friend or relative to act as a control. Twelve years later, the overall death rate in the vegetarians was 20 per cent lower than in the meat eaters, even after adjusting the figures for differences in gender, social class, smoking status and degree of obesity between the two groups. Deaths from cancer were 39 per cent lower, and those from coronary heart disease 28 per cent lower, in the vegetarians.

The Oxford study did not, however, account for differences in the amount of exercise taken. Vegetarian women in particular may take large amounts of exercise. In contrast, an American study of 5,000 young adults found vegetarians had significantly better cardiorespiratory fitness than meat-eaters. Differences in exercise may partly account for several other benefits seen in vegetarians and generally attributed to their diet: lower body weight, lower blood pressure, lower cholesterol levels, and a substantially reduced risk of diabetes.

However, studies in which habitual meat eaters changed to a vegetarian diet for a month or two have consistently demonstrated improvements in cholesterol levels. The changes reversed when the subjects returned to their usual diet. Unhealthy constituents of meat, particularly saturated fatty acids, and positive constituents of the vegetarian diet, particularly antioxidants (vitamins C and E and betacarotene), were thought to be jointly responsible.

Very few studies have compared a no-meat diet with a low lean-meat diet in terms of heart disease risk. In general, a low lean-meat diet seems to produce LDL cholesterol and blood pressure levels intermediate between those of strict vegetarianism and the standard Western diet.

The link between vegetarianism and reduced risk of cancer is complex. Lung cancer is commoner in meat eaters, partly (but not entirely) because of the higher prevalence of cigarette smoking in this group: ascorbic acid in fruit may protect against the condition. Cancer of the colon and rectum may be related to particular constituents of cooked meat, heterocyclic amines, which are carcinogenic at high dose in animals. But there is also evidence that folic acid, phytosterols and protease inhibitors, present in plant-based diets, protect against the condition.

But the results of two recently published large studies preclude any simplistic conclusion that "meat causes cancer". In one, the risk of colon cancer in American women rose steadily the more pork, beef and lamb they consumed, but eating skinless chicken or fish was associated with reduced risk of this condition.

In the other study, 1,900 strict or semi-vegetarians in Germany were followed up for 11 years. The overall death rate was 25 per cent higher, and the risk of cancer 50 per cent higher, in those who never touched meat or fish than in those who ate it occasionally. The authors concluded that strict vegetarianism may lead to malnutrition, which in turn might predispose to cancer.

Highly restrictive, faddy diets can cause nutritional deficiences and serious health problems, particularly in vulnerable groups such as growing teenagers, pregnant women and people already diagnosed as having cancer. Deficiency of vitamin B12 follows inevitably from a strict vegan diet (no meat, fish or eggs): sufferers become anaemic and eventually develop nerve damage.

Deficiencies of other B vitamins, notably B6, have been found in some studies of strict vegetarians. Vegetarian children tend to be taller but leaner than their meat-eating contemporaries, but strictly vegan children may not meet their calorie or protein requirements and can become growth-retarded, while the exclusively breast-fed infants of vegan mothers can develop B12-related mental retardation. This is reversible once the deficiency is rectified.

A study just published in the medical journal *Thorax* showed that the incidence of tuberculosis in ethnic Asian people in south London was more than eight times higher in vegetarians than in regular meat eaters. Here the differences were attributed to dietary vitamin D deficiency, which is believed to weaken the immune system.

Iron deficiency is commoner in vegetarians, particularly in those who have only recently changed their diet. One study found that white teenage girls who had gone vegetarian were five times as likely to be iron-deficient as their meat-eating friends, while Asian vegetarian teenagers were 50 per cent less likely than Asian meat eaters to be iron deficient. This is in line with other evidence that nutritional deficiencies occur most frequently in people who describe their vegetarianism as an "exclusion diet" rather than as a traditional part of their culture.

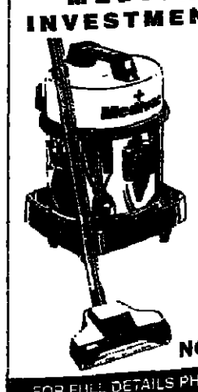
It is well established that a high-carbohydrate, high-fibre, low-fat, low-meat diet containing a variety of fresh fruit and vegetables, and supplemented with oily fish or fish oil, has significant health benefits. But the evidence is more equivocal as to whether the prudent diet can be improved still further by removing all lean meat.

● *Dr Trisha Greenhalgh is a GP in North London.*

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A cautionary tale about people with 'just a touch' of angina

Dr Kieran Sweeney read one piece of research and changed his practice

The pleasant, 70-year-old retired farmer asked: "I think I might have a touch of angina, doctor, but that's not terribly serious, is it?" The question seemed simple enough, but in fact it is not easy to answer.

Most of the guidance on how to investigate and treat angina is based on studies from specialist clinics, where they see the one-fifth of angina sufferers whose symptoms have been severe enough for referral. Until recently I had felt reasonably confident about managing angina, especially if the symptoms were mild, infrequent, and did not disrupt the patient's life too much.

If a nitrate spray was not enough to relieve symptoms, then I would prescribe the longer-acting nitrates. Beta-blockers and the newer calcium channel-blockers also form the front line for treating chronic angina. Where necessary, I also recommend giving up smoking and losing weight.

Overall, I followed the normal practice of referring only those whose symptoms were difficult to control with drugs or who were experiencing angina at an early age. Such action was recommended to GPs only last August by the NHS-supported Medicines Resource Centre. But then I read a study in the *British Heart Journal* which suggested that this course of action might miss many patients whose symptoms, although mild, would be better treated by surgery. It painted a different and compelling picture of the way in which patients such as the retired farmer should be managed.



For the study, researchers at the University of Southampton cardiology department obtained the agreement of more than 100 GPs in their area to refer every patient who appeared for the first time with symptoms of angina to a chest pain clinic within 24 hours.

A total of 103 patients were referred in this way and each was given an exercise ECG, which involves performing increasingly strenuous exercises on a treadmill while wired up to an ECG (electrocardiography) machine. Nearly one third had significant changes, suggesting that the heart was under sufficient strain to warrant more invasive tests such as an angiogram (X-ray of the coronary arteries). Almost another third had lesser changes on the exercise ECG which, although not requiring immediate follow-up, indicated that the heart was not working as efficiently as expected. These results made me think that perhaps all patients who present with angina should have an exercise test on their heart.

Although this study did not last very long — the median follow-up period was 16 months — some of the results suggested that referring to "a touch of angina", as my patient had done, might be to underestimate the problem. About 10 per cent had a heart attack or other serious complication of angina during the course of the researchers' observations. And nearly one-fifth went on to have surgery to their coronary arteries, either by angioplasty, where the artery is dilated up with a small balloon under X-ray guidance, or full cardiac surgery to reconstruct the coronary blood supply (CABG operation). What we do not yet know is if these operations increase life expectancy. They certainly relieve pain, although angioplasty may have to be repeated.

It is rare to read a research paper that changes one's practice, but this one has. In future I will probably refer patients with angina more quickly for specialist assessment. But if every GP does the same, cardiac laboratories will be swamped — more than 22,000 patients will turn up with new symptoms of angina in a year.

● *Dr Sweeney is a GP in Exeter.*

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Janet Daley



■ Oh why can't the English learn to speak — straightforwardly?

Hypocrisy has had a good week. Single-handedly, Peter Tatchell has rehabilitated it as a minor virtue — or, at least, as the most benign of vices. Even those newspapers which had given him most tacit encouragement in the past, and were therefore partly responsible for his hubris, rounded on him with blood-curdling condemnation. But Mr Tatchell is apparently unrepentant about the mauling he has taken in the public prints. He seems not to understand why his charge of hypocrisy did not automatically cast his enemies into outer darkness, this being the only absolute and unquestionable transgression in the modern moral code. He was, after all, simply carrying to its grotesque logical conclusion a philosophy which has prevailed for 30 years among those who consider themselves enlightened.

But in the end, it was bound to go against the English grain to insist that sincerity was an ultimate good, when duplicity had always been regarded before as a paramount social skill. The ethic imported from the United States in the 1960s which prized full-frontal honesty above all things was hopelessly alien to the indigenous culture. (I refer to the English advisedly: the Scots have a very different attitude to these things.) Inevitably, such an intellectual fashion would have only a weak hold on most of the educated classes, whose schooling was largely dedicated to inculcating the arts of duplicity. It found its permanent home among extremists who, perhaps by definition, were outsiders: those who never could understand the point of that elaborate ritual dance which constitutes English social intercourse.

Indeed, excluding the outsider is part of its point. English social manners are so arcane in their circumlocutions as to be quite impenetrable to the hapless foreigner — or, for that matter, to the uninitiated native. They are just as useful in sorting sheep from goats within the country as they were for maintaining an acceptable distance from ambitious colonial populations. Much of my first 20 or so years in this country was spent railing against the perverse English habit of saying the opposite of what one means, and — even more mystifying — expecting one's real intentions to be understood nonetheless. A succession of catastrophic social misadventures befalls every expatriate before he catches on to this fact of national life.

Even when you have gathered that every conversation has three levels of meaning — what you say, what you mean, and what you wish to be understood as meaning — you are still faced with the hellish task of disentangling them. Even more alarming than trying to decipher what your interlocutor has actually said is pondering what you in turn might have been interpreted as meaning when you thought you were being perfectly straightforward. How many confusions was I forced to unpick in the early years with the pitiful words "No, it's not that at all — I actually meant exactly what I said". Anyone hoping to understand why this country has become so hopelessly bogged down would have to take account of the enormous amount of time and energy which goes into figuring out what everybody is actually saying. (Not to mention the chronic hesitation and indecisiveness that comes from the fear of making an ass of yourself by reading someone wrongly.)

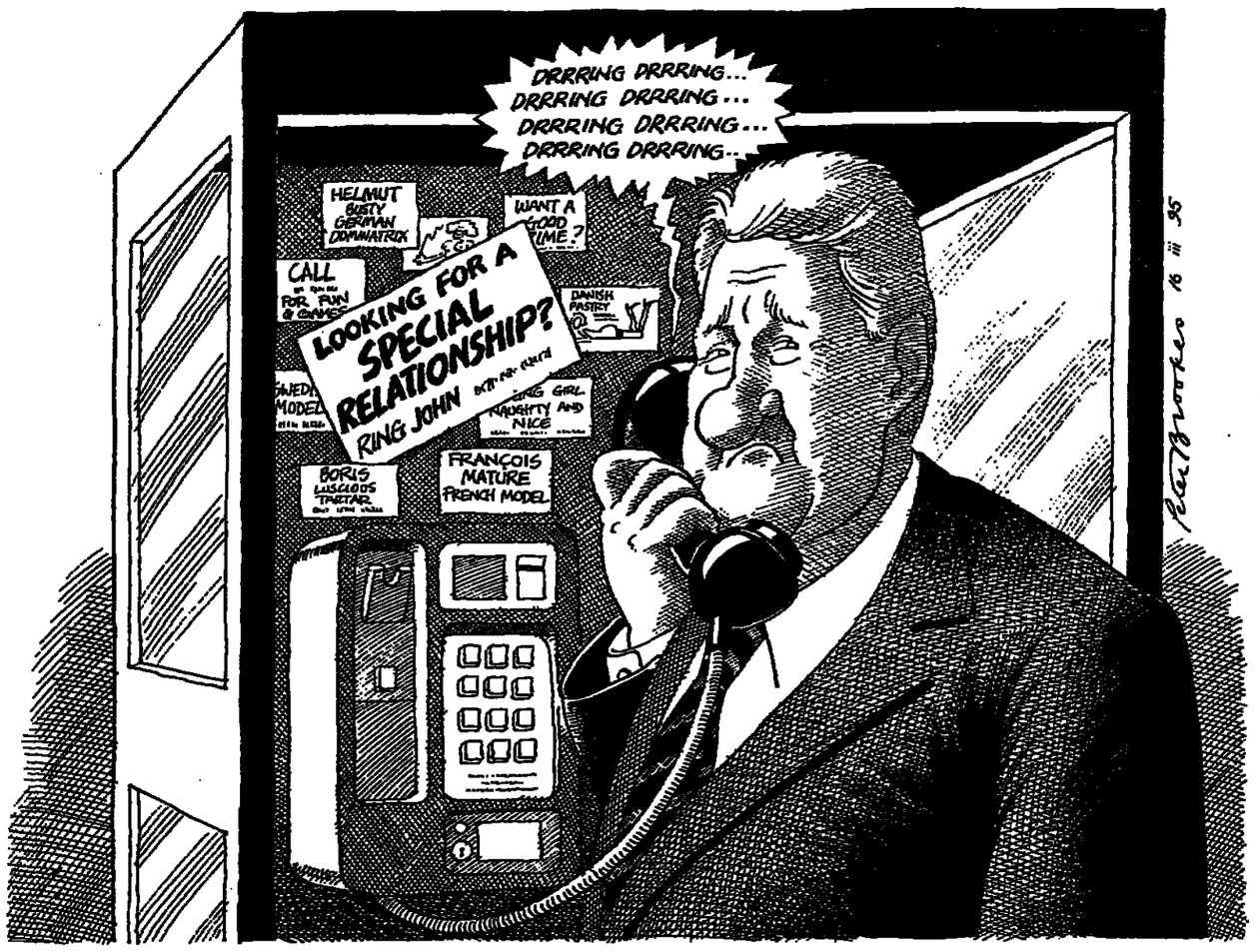
Waving my arms in exasperation at the deception and wilful obscurity of my adopted country, I would be taken aside for counselling: much of this insincerity, I would be told, was simply a form of kindness. Greeting someone whom you loathe with the words "How lovely to see you" is just a civilised form which avoids unpleasantness. Sincerity values only true feelings; hypocrisy enables you to treat people decently even when you feel no affection for them. But is it cruelty that is really being eschewed, or just embarrassment? Or is the taste for hypocrisy just part of a larger cultural preference for what one might call obliqueness?

> The English prefer to be oblique, ironic, hypocritical

An abhorrence for saying or, for that matter, confronting anything directly helps to explain the English taste for subtlety. This preference for the coded nuance, the cultivated ambiguity which turns every exchange into a cipher, has formed a rich seam for novelists. In few other literary traditions is there so much scope for the unravelling of social perplexity and misapprehension.

And irony — another trait prized greatly by the English — is closely related to hypocrisy. Much English wit rests literally on the idea that it is inherently amusing to state the opposite of what you believe. The joke relies on the acknowledged assumption that you, being the person that you are, could not possibly be thought to believe what you have just said.

So is it all a deliberate attempt to befuddle the socially aspirant? I used to think so. Now I suspect that it is more designed to conceal than to confuse. Hypocrisy and irony are both distancing techniques, intended to throw up false scents and diversions so that the secret self remains inviolate.



Unsafe as Tory houses

Voters are blaming the Government for falling house prices, says **Tim Congdon**

The most overworked expression in the current political debate is "the feel-good factor". Everyone knows what it means in general terms: a sense of contentment based on material well-being and an accompanying endorsement of the prevailing order, including the government of the day. As is well-known, the problem for the Conservative Party today is that the "feel-good" factor of the mid and late 1980s has been replaced by the "feel-bad" factor of the early and mid 1990s.

Perhaps if the feel-good and feel-bad factors could be measured, the Government might be able to do something about its current unpopularity. If it could gauge the size of the tax cuts in the 1995 Budget (and the 1996 Budget, if it is still in power) necessary to change feel-bad into feel-good, it might significantly improve its electoral chances.

The feel-bad factor can be blamed partly on the increase in the tax burden due to the two Budgets of 1993 and the persisting rather high level of unemployment. But neither of these influences ought to be fundamental. Taxes have gone up sharply since 1992, but they remain lower than in other European countries, while unemployment also is less than the European average.

The dominant reason for the feel-bad factor has instead been the state of the housing market. Sixty-eight per cent of British households own their home, and of these 63 per cent have a mortgage while 37 per cent own their home outright. The value of the housing stock represents no less than 45 per cent of total personal wealth. Because the majority of people are affectd, a recession in the housing market spreads gloom among the great British public.

Unhappily for the present Conservative Government, house prices began to fall in late 1989, continued to slide until 1993, and even now remain more than 10 per cent below their peak. There is an obvious contrast between this experience and the relentless rise in house prices between 1981 and 1989. The change from seemingly never-ending house-price iflation to severe house-price deflation has not only caused a severe erosion of personal wealth, but has also disappointed reasonable and widely-held expectations.

The scale of the disappointment is demonstrated in the table. It shows the value of the housing stock at the end of each year since 1979, and calculates the capital gain each year, using the Nationwide Building Society index. (Note that increase in the value of the housing stock from year to year is larger than the capital gain because of new houses built, purchases of council houses from the public sector and refurbishments.)

Housing stock at year-end (£ billion) — % change in house-prices — capital gains and losses (£ billion)

1979	£270.8	30.6%	£82.4
1980	£306.6	7.0%	£18.9
1981	£324.1	1.3%	£3.9
1982	£364.7	7.5%	£25.0
1983	£430.5	11.9%	£43.4
1984	£487.5	13.7%	£59.0
1985	£557.7	8.9%	£43.3
1986	£652.5	11.7%	£65.4
1987	£796.4	12.0%	£78.5
1988	£1064.6	29.1%	£231.5
1989	£1172.5	7.4%	£80.5
1990	£1158.7	-10.7%	£128.4
1991	£1157.7	-1.9%	£22.0
1992	£1091.3	-8.3%	£96.7
1993	£1115.9	2.6%	£28.0
1994	£1138.5	0.5%	£5.6

The main point is obvious: the marked contrast between large and continuous capital gains before 1990 and persistent capital losses thereafter. Although house prices were roughly stable in 1994, there is still no persuasive sign of renewed house-price inflation. In fact, estate agents say that early 1995 has been a bleak period, partly because of the three 0.5 per cent interest-rate increases since last September. The lack of consumer confidence has constrained retail sales, which, according to figures published yesterday, have been static since last summer.

A highly sophisticated Martian, coming to the British housing market for the first time, might say that the capital gains and losses are irrelevant. All that matters — he would insist — are the houses themselves and the enjoyment they give to the people who live in them. Homeowners ought to understand that they are better off now than they have ever been before, for the real value of the housing stock has continued to rise in the 1990s. Thus the feel-good and feel-bad factors are imaginary.

But that is not how it seems to the millions of households affected by falling house prices. They may have more bedrooms, better quality bathroom fittings, warmer central heating and more convenient kitchens than ever before. But the plain fact of the matter is that the money value of all these good things is less than the money value of somewhat worse equivalents in the late 1980s. Households' wealth cannot be converted into as many consumable goods as was once the case.

The drop in houses' nominal value has most significance for households with large mortgage debts, because of course such debts are expressed in money terms and are not adjusted downwards in line with house prices. About a million households suffer from "negative equity", with mortgage debts above the value of their homes. But there are a few million more who have equity so low that they cannot realistically consider moving to a larger house.

From the Tory point of view, the plight of these households is a political disaster. Many of them saw home-ownership as a passport to property-owning democracy, the Thatcherite Britain of small-time capitalists. Even better, they thought, was the prospect that their admission to this happy land would be made easier by gratuitous capital gains from never-ending house-price increases.

The supposed benefits of property ownership extended to the endowment policies and personal pension plans which were often sold in conjunction with the houses. The insurance salesmen claimed that these policies and plans would show far more handsome returns than the same amount of money left in a bank account. Over time that may well be true, but the salesmen might have given more warnings about the products' complexity and the difficulty of cashing them in early.

The people who bought houses, insurance policies and personal pensions in the late 1980s have been the prime victims of the housing slump of the 1990s. They might have expected that the Tory Government, which had done so much to persuade them to maximise their mortgage debt and their financial commitment to market capitalism, would find a way to help them. Instead, it has actively penalised them. Large tax increases had become inevitable by early 1993, because of the previous failure to cut public expenditure and to compensate for the irresponsible tax cuts in 1987 and 1988 Budgets. But it was particularly harsh on Britain's unfortunate homeowners that much of the increase should take the form of a withdrawal of mortgage interest relief. The value of the relief, which was £7.7 billion in the 1990-91 tax year, will be roughly £3 billion in 1995-96.

For the 3.8 million households who bought their first property between 1983 and 1989, the house-price slump since 1990 had already been a financial blow below the belt. The withdrawal of mortgage interest relief then came as a fiscal slap in the face. It was particularly bad news for negative equity households. They cannot escape the increase in their tax burden due to the loss of relief by selling their homes and cutting their mortgages. If they did so, they would crystallise their losses and bankrupt themselves. All they can do is grin, pay the extra tax, struggle to keep up with the mortgage payments — and vote Labour.

Is there anything the Tories can now do to recover support among that vast group of people, the home-owning middle classes, whom they have alienated by the recession, the housing fiasco and their tax policies? One message from the table is that tax cuts alone will not be enough. The largest conceivable tax cuts — of, say, £5 billion in the 1995 Budget — are trifling compared with the capital losses sustained in the housing market since 1990. These losses amount to well over £200 billion.

Ministers will insist that they must not go back to the bad old days of house inflation. They might at least remember that it was their Government which presided over the last house-price boom, apologise for what they did and show a little more understanding of the misery they have caused. The worst possible outcome would be foolishly large tax cuts to bribe te electorate with its own money. These would do nothing to relieve the housing market directly, and might even aggravate the problem indirectly, by wrecking Britain's public finances, alienating the financial markets and leading to another destructive round of interest-rate rises.

Professor Tim Congdon is economic adviser to Gerrard & National Holdings plc.

Do we still matter to America?

Stop pandering to the White House, says **Peter Riddell**

When John Major visits Bill Clinton at the White House early next month, they will shake hands, smile and say how much they agree about the world's problems. Ireland will be mentioned, but it will be behind Bosnia, Russia, the future of Nato and Iraq. The meeting will be highly contrived, and largely false. But the pretence of close friendship and agreement — all that is implied by that overused and misleading phrase "the special relationship" — has become an inescapable part of Britain's public dealings with America.

When something goes wrong, as it has over President Clinton's handling of Gerry Adams's visit to Washington, much of the British press over-reacts with hysterical denunciations of the president. Having spent the first 150 years of America's independence patronising the former colonies, British politicians now crave the affection and respect of Washington. They give a display of hurt feelings if there is any hint of a slight, and then rush to pretend that everything is all right.

Personal relations matter as an oil to diplomacy. But the current cooling has occurred at a time when the interests of America and Britain are diverging, largely because of the end of the Cold War.

Relations between presidents and prime ministers have varied enormously. There is nothing new, either, in differences over Ireland. British attempts to play Greece to the Americans' Rome, as Macmillan put it at his most theatrical, or to cosy up alongside them to influence decisions, as diplomats now say, have been viewed more sceptically in Washington. Even at the height of wartime cooperation, relations between Roosevelt and Churchill were often strained, as their secret correspondence has shown.

Two of the three presidents with the closest knowledge of Britain — Eisenhower and Clinton — have been the most hard-headed. Eisenhower did not let his wartime work prevent him from being tough with Britain at times in the 1950s. The exception was John Kennedy. This was partly thanks to Lord Harlech, the British Ambassador in Washington, who enjoyed better access to the White House than his predecessors or successors. Macmillan and Harlech together persuaded the President in late 1962 to over-rule his advisers and agree to Britain having Polaris missiles, and hence a continued strategic nuclear role. Relations were cooler during the early 1970s, when Heath deliberately cultivated European leaders rather than the US.

The affection between Thatcher and Reagan was reinforced by close working ties between defence and intelligence staffs. Hence, Caspar Weinberger and the Pentagon started providing logistics and intelligence help to Britain during the Falklands conflict, well before the formal White House go-ahead. Mrs Thatcher could ask Reagan for assistance at crucial times. But even during the 1980s there were disagreements: over the American invasion of Grenada, over some of Reagan's arms-control initiatives.

Personal relations remained warm during the Bush years, though James Baker, the powerful Secretary of State, placed more importance on thought Germany more important than Britain. Now relations are cooler. Clinton's team has never forgotten the Tories' help for the Bush campaign in 1992. Admittedly, Sir Robin Renwick, the retiring British Ambassador in Washington, carefully cultivated Tony Lake, now national security adviser. Rod Lyne, Major's foreign affairs private secretary, now talks regularly with Mr Lake. But ministers regard the White House as unreliable and inconsistent. The old sense of trust has gone. Too often over the past two years, assurances have been given by the White House, only to be broken later, at least in London's view.

Clinton's decision to ignore State Department advice and to side with the Irish-American lobby came not just because he needs to maximise domestic political support for his re-election bid, but because he disagrees with Major over timing, and believes that the IRA/Sinn Fein has done enough to justify his meeting Adams. But the President was able to brush aside the Prime Minister's request because Britain matters less now. The defence links are less central than during the Cold War; there have been disagreements involving not just Britain but all the EU — over Bosnia (though Britain and the Clinton Administration now agree), the future of Nato, American disengagement and the neo-isolationist mood in the new Congress, irritation over alleged American highhandedness in the rescue of Mexico, and various trade disputes.

Personal relations might be warmer with another Administration, but American attitudes towards Britain would shift again under a President Dole or Gramm. British politicans, and press, need to pay as much attention to how Chancellor Kohl and the new French president treat Mr Major as to what the occupant of the White House says. It is time to end the American fixation.

Shock opera

OLD-STAGERS would do well to steer clear of a forthcoming production at the English National Opera in London. The British première of *Life with an Idiot* by the Russian composer Alfred Schnittke will have them reaching for the gin at the interval. It is so racy that the ENO has issued its first warning over an opera's content in its eight decades. All promotional material is accompanied by a statement: "The production contains strong language and scenes of physical and sexual violence, which some members of the audience may find offensive."

The opera opens on April Fool's Day, with a plot which would hit top C with Mary Whitehouse. It is billed as *Carry On* meets Kafka meets Dada, and concerns a married couple forced by the state to take in a lunatic as a lodger in punishment for an unspecified crime.

The villain of the piece indulges in various excesses, which include seducing first the landlord's wife and then the landlord himself. He absconds after doing away with one of them and leaving the other in a lunatic asylum.

"The opera is very direct in language and in action," says a spokeswoman. "It is a descent into depravity and madness, so it actually has to be quite explicit. It doesn't pull any punches. It's sexually quite open."

Stwff poeth

THE DAUGHTER of the Welsh Nationalist leader Dafydd Wigley has come to the aid of love-lorn students struggling to woo young Welsh talent. Eluned Wigley, 20, a student at the University of Wales in Cardiff, has produced a Welsh phrase book for those of her peers ignorant of the native tongue.

She starts with simple phrases such as "How's it going", but quickly gets down to the nitty-gritty of student life. Bright young things can now survive a night out on the town starting with "Where's the bar?" and gradually progressing through "What are you doing tonight" — and more.

Wigley senior is looking forward to reading it: "Even in the more Anglicised parts of the country, the language has its uses."



Nose job

ANARCHY appears to have descended on Malvern College, the Worcestershire public school which produced Jeremy Paxman, after the Undermaster issued a decree stating that the wearing of Comic Relief red noses is "strictly forbidden". The statement incensed staff and pupils alike.

Yesterday the matter reached new heights, when pupils burst into a staff meeting and kidnapped said master under the — er — noses of the head and others. Unbeknown to the staff room, however, the Undermaster and his kidnappers were indulging in an elaborate prank to draw attention to Comic Relief. Apparently, when the Headmaster cottoned on, he poured a bucket of water over his Undermaster.

Boot in

PRESIDENT CLINTON may be embarrassing John Major over Ireland, but at least our Prime Minister can claim the edge on Jean-Luc Dehaene. The football-crazy Prime Minister of Belgium looked as sick as a parrot at Stamford Bridge on Tuesday night as his home side, Bruges, went down 2-0 to Major's team, Chelsea, in the European Cup Winners' Cup.

There is little love lost the two football fanatics since Major vetoed Dehaene's appointment as EU President. But by the end of the game, Dehaene's antipathy towards Britain must have been complete. "He is a long-standing supporter," said a Belgian diplomat also at the match. "Obviously he was very disappointed."

Making music

JILLY COOPER is giving the races a miss this year, even though she lives within a furlong or two of Cheltenham. The horsey novelist says she is purposefully avoiding the festival to concentrate on her latest book, which concerns the extra-curricular behaviour of members of an orchestra.

"I'm writing this book and can only concentrate on one thing at a time," she said at the London launch of *Classic FM* magazine. "The problem is that I always come to parties and just end up getting drunk and enjoying myself."

All in a name

THE MOST arresting sight at the launch of the new Gordon's Gin advertising campaign this week was the towering, shaven-headed Jamaican model who appears on the posters. But her looks weren't as important as her name. She is called Gin.

"I went for the initial interviews, got through those and then, when they were trying to decide who should get the job, they looked down the list and saw my name," she explained.



Gin: adman's tonic

● *The Princess of Wales has knee trouble. She turned up to watch Sylvie Guillem in* Swan Lake *at the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden on Tuesday night sporting a bandage. "It was underneath her tights on the right knee," commented a star-spotter in the stalls. Buckingham Palace denies an excess of balletic gymnastics.*

P·H·S

WHEN TIES UNWIND

Clinton and Major spin ever further apart

In the eyes of the ever smaller number of Americans who pay attention to Anglo-American relations, John Major has displayed petty and unjustified pique over Bill Clinton's symbolic White House welcome for Gerry Adams tomorrow at the President's traditional party to celebrate St Patrick's Day. The President has been able to represent his overture to the Sinn Fein leader — in which his anxiety to woo the Irish-American vote was certainly the paramount factor — as a principled decision to promote peace in Ireland at the risk of irritating the British. Seen from the other side of the ocean, Mr Major's refusal to take two personal telephone calls from Mr Clinton after this decision was made looks, by contrast, anything but statesmanlike.

It is hardly surprising that Americans fail to see the logic of British arguments that Sinn Fein, which can raise funds in Britain, should not be allowed to do so in America. Yet Mr Clinton acted against not only British advice, but also that of most of his own officials. He must have been aware of the domestic delicacy of Mr Major's Northern Ireland strategy. It did not weigh with him. Patches are now being applied to the wound, but the impression that it was cavalierly inflicted remains.

Mr Clinton has written to Mr Major endorsing the view of Richard Holbrooke, assistant secretary of state for Europe, that decommissioning of the IRA arsenal should start now and not at the end of the peace process. Mr Holbrooke went further yesterday, saying that constitutional groups should not be expected to sit at a table with organisations which retained the right to return to arms. In the White House, British analysts are ridiculed for every month declaring "a warm and special relationship" to be dead. But an aura of "America first" hangs troublingly over this affair and not over this affair alone.

The Adams drama may seem tame by comparison with the lightning flashing over Paris — where President Mitterrand's calculated embrace of Fidel Castro has compounded a recent row over alleged American industrial espionage. But public disputatiousness is so deeply woven into the fabric of Franco-American relations that both sides take it as a matter of course. By contrast, unity of purpose is the essence of Anglo-American diplomacy, even where the two sides are privately at odds. The effort put into surmounting exceptions, notably over Suez and Grenada, has proved the rule.

The Clinton Administration appears to mark a break in this tradition. This is partly because the multiple channels that made its continuation possible function today either poorly or not at all. British diplomats and politicians are well used to the complexities of a political system that requires them to deal with Congress as well as the Administration, and with the two rival foreign policy power centres of the State Department and the National Security Adviser and his team. But it is far trickier to deal with an Administration which seems unable to remember what its foreign policy is from one month to the next — whether the issue is Bosnia, the expansion of Nato, Russian reforms or the United Nations — and which above all appears to attach little value to consultation with any of its allies.

The problem is not Britain's alone. Even Germany, a few years ago the apple of American eyes, has found that the Atlantic has widened since Mr Clinton took office — hence Bonn's interest in a new "Atlantic compact". Mr Clinton has neither understanding of nor a taste for institutional diplomacy; and, whatever will be said to the contrary when Mr Major visits Washington next month, there is no compensating personal warmth between the two leaders. Sir John Kerr will take over as British ambassador to Washington this summer with fewer expectations of privileged access than any of his postwar predecessors. The art of handling Washington may, for the next two years at least, lie in learning to live without it — and in franker and if necessary open discussion of the areas where policies diverge.

WHEN LAW WASTES MONEY

The costs of ancient verbiage are too high

English law still fails to register that "clear law is good law". This is the simple message of the Law Commission, expressed yesterday in its Annual Report. The Commission does more than merely report that large sections of the law continue to be set in Dickensian idiom: it also argues forcefully that bad law wastes the taxpayers' money.

Established in 1965, the Commission was charged by Parliament with the "simplification and modernisation of the law", a task which it has pursued with acumen and elegance. The body plays its most influential part in rationalising those laws that have been spawned by the judiciary on an unwieldy case-by-case basis. The Commission's virtues are that it is lean, staffed with the best minds in technical areas of the law and free from political affiliation. It also has the ability to engage in wide-ranging consultation with experts in every field — something which the judiciary cannot easily do. A number of essential modern statutes which have added to society's wellbeing, can be attributed directly to recommendations by the Commission. The 1977 Unfair Contract Terms Act and the 1984 Occupiers' Liability Act are but two examples from recent years.

In its latest report, the commission has focused attention rightly on the "bedraggled state" of English criminal law. There can be no question that this area needs rapidly to be modernised. The 1861 Offences Against the Person Act comes in for special criticism: its antiquated language obscures the underlying legal principles to such an extent that its terms need to be "translated" for juries and magistrates. Section 18 of the Act is a stupefying example: "Whosoever shall unlawfully and maliciously by any means whatsoever wound or cause grievous bodily harm to any person with intent to do some grievous bodily harm to any person or with intent to resist or prevent the lawful apprehension or detainer of any person, shall be guilty of an offence .." The Commission's case rests.

Furthermore, there have been a number of important technological developments with which our criminal law has not kept pace: the existing rules appear not to cope, for example, with "deceiving" a cash-point machine. There are huge gaps in the law of dishonesty. It is still not a criminal offence for an individual (as opposed to a group of people) to secure a mortgage by deception. And since the 1968 Theft Act (as amended) only relates to "property", the law appears not to account for unpatented trade secrets or any other intangible matter.

The true essence of the Commission's report, however, lies in its plea for clarity and simplicity in legislation. As its Chairman, Mr Justice Brooke, writes in the introduction to the report, "large swaths of trust law, and landlord and tenant law ..are antique, obscure or impenetrable, and the bill for bad law goes to those who have to use it." Those so "billed" include the Lord Chancellor's department, which has to meet "the costs of bad law borne by central government". The burden of bad law falls clearly, and unacceptably, on the taxpayer. Lawmakers must read the Commission's report with due diligence — and act on it.

VOTING FOR THE DOGS

Birmingham turns from politics to pooper-scoopers

"A blatant attempt to buy votes" said Birmingham's grande dame of politics, Jill Knight, yesterday. And she was talking only about the latest Labour council corruption saga. Her city's great dog show had not even begun. This is the week when all walkies lead to Brum. Woe betide any mere political intriguer who gets in the way of the dog world bosses.

Cruft's is the only word that all 20,000 rival entrants, apart from the pekinese, can pronounce. Nearly 200 breeds have been entered. From chihuahuas as petite as hyperthyroid rats to afghans with pedigrees as long as a councillor's expenses claim, top dogs are coming to the National Exhibition Centre. BBC2, which would not dream of screening anything as sexist as a female beauty contest, is going to the dogs in depth and at length. On all channels viewers will watch the crowning of the supreme champion. Last year's winner was a Welsh terrier named Purston Hit and Miss from Brocolitia, known for convenient calling as Buttons. Beagle's Turn — a principle skilfully adapted from the council chamber — suggests that some other breed will win this year.

In spite of growls from human dog-breeders who used to enjoy their annual jaunt to the bright lights of London, Birmingham has become a success for this quintessentially English event since it moved there four years ago. The Kennel Club is predicting 100,000 visitors from all quarters for the four days of the show, as many as used to take the trail to Olympia and then Earls Court. The most centrally accessible city in the kingdom has accommodation and kennels at all prices.

The NEC is spacious enough to accommodate not only the new "Discover Dogs" pavilion where prospective owners can inspect and discuss 160 different breeds with experts, but also a national microchipping identification scheme for dogs to help them to find their chosen breeds when they stray. The National Canine Defence League will unveil posters dramatising the plight of stray and abandoned dogs. Such campaigns, it seems, are making the British less careless about their pets and their nuisance to others. Animal rights fascists will not stand a cat's chance at Cruft's.

The dogs seem to like Birmingham for their annual beauty parade. Cruft's senior veterinary officer reports fewer dog casualties than in London. At Earls Court his vets had to treat stress-induced conditions such as vomiting and diarrhoea. Birmingham offers wall-to-wall carpeting, wider gaps between the show benches and better air circulation. Here the vets have nothing more to treat than the occasional torn dew-claw, case of itchy skin or the kind of doggy depression that occurs when one's political master faces charges relating to home-improvement grants.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Dutch depiction of euthanasia on TV

From Dr Robert Twycross and others

Sir, We welcome the BBC's interest in recent weeks on the subject of euthanasia. It is an issue of public concern and discussion is to be encouraged.

It is open to question, however, whether it is appropriate for the BBC to be showing tonight the Dutch television programme *Death on Request*, in which a Dutch doctor administers a lethal injection to one of his patients (report, March 15). We understand that the programme fails to show the wider implications of a legally permissive attitude towards euthanasia.

Although euthanasia remains a criminal offence in The Netherlands, an official decree published a year ago states how doctors in that country may avoid prosecution if life is actively terminated in a range of circumstances. These embrace patients suffering from either a physical or a psychiatric disorder, *in each case either with or without an express request by the patient*.

That a person need not be in physical pain or even terminally ill to be permitted euthanasia is alarming. This was confirmed by the Dutch Supreme Court's ruling in the Chabot case in 1994 which upheld a Dutch doctor's decision to administer a lethal injection to a woman who was suffering from depression. The report of a commission set up by the Dutch Government (the Remmelink report) confirmed several years ago that non-voluntary euthanasia already occurs in The Netherlands.

Having embraced the practice of euthanasia, the Dutch now find themselves on a slippery slope which not only involves euthanasia for those who are not dying but also euthanasia without request. While television programmes such as *Death on Request* may be helpful in stimulating debate, facts from The Netherlands show clearly why euthanasia should not be legally sanctioned in this country.

Yours sincerely,
ROBERT TWYCROSS
(Macmillan Clinical Reader in Palliative Medicine, University of Oxford),
JOHN EBOR:
(Archbishop of York),
FRANK FIELD
(Chairman, House of Commons Select Committee on Social Security),
MARION ROE
(Chairman, House of Commons Select Committee on Health),
CICELY SAUNDERS
(Chairman, St Christopher's Hospice),
WALTON of DETCHANT
(Chairman, House of Lords Select Committee on Medical Ethics, 1994),
Sir Michael Sobell House,
Churchill Hospital, Oxford.
March 15.

Charity fundraising

From Mr John F. Gray

Sir, Charity fundraising and money raised for charitable purposes yet again reach headlines as a result of the BBC Television programme *Here and Now* (report, March 9). The Child Aid Foundation is highlighted as an organisation that has raised £1 million but distributed very little towards the purpose it agreed to raise funds for, though it emphatically denies any impropriety.

It is crucial that the British public channel funds to organisations that have been well established, which have low cost-income ratios and are able to deliver services too. Entrepreneurial fundraising is high-risk, and often without a structure or strategy. There are already in the United Kingdom enough charities working for all manner of causes and conditions and I therefore believe that people should channel their donations to charities with established records of success rather than to ones whose viability has yet to be demonstrated.

Fundraising is a serious profession and in particular the Institute of Charity Fundraising Managers, since being set up 11 years ago, has pioneered and developed codes of practice and guidelines for fundraising matters for those foundations and charities that are in the business of raising money for charitable purposes.

We must not deter entrepreneurs with a vision for helping others, but I ask that such entrepreneurs in the future turn first to the existing charities by sharing their visions and hopes and offer to get involved. Starting up on one's own in these days is not necessarily the right way to proceed.

The British Red Cross is always looking for entrepreneurs to help us in our fundraising and in this, our 125th birthday year, we welcome by invitation those volunteers.

Yours etc,
JOHN F. GRAY
(Director of Public Affairs),
British Red Cross Society,
9 Grosvenor Crescent, SW1.
March 10.

A moral question

From Mr J. P. Preece Smith

Sir, Julian Critchley (letter, March 13) asks that the Government Chief Whip impose a vow of poverty, chastity and obedience upon Conservative MPs.

Is it too much to hope that this vow could be extended to include silence?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN SMITH,
Tudor House,
Milton Street,
Fairford, Gloucestershire.
March 14.

Executive pay and workers' rights

From Mr Paul Smith

Sir, It is illuminating that Tim Bell ("What's wrong with corporate success?", March 11), in defending the extent of rewards to senior executives and shareholders, considers the impact on all players (Government, directors, customers, etc) without considering the effects on the workforce.

For years, we have been expected to venerate shareholders, ignoring their short-termism and lack of commitment whilst denying individual workers any meaningful rights or positive contribution. Yes, without profits there would be no business; but the overriding point is the continuing failure in our country to develop business systems in which shareholders support the creative management of the human skills and resources of enterprises, to anticipate and exploit opportunities and generate profits.

Instead of telling us to resist socialism "tooth and nail" — surely rather an arid and esoteric pursuit — Tim Bell could more usefully focus on the more tangible hard evidence provided over recent years showing that what is most wanted by most people is stability, security and a return to basic integrity in public life.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL SMITH,
2 Adams Avenue, Saltcoats, Ayrshire.
March 11.

From the Reverend Norman A. Russell

Sir, There is nothing wrong with corporate success. Wealth creation is essential and those leading innovative public companies which compete successfully in world markets can properly expect support and encouragement from the community as a whole.

Sir Tim Bell goes over the top, however, when he says that "restrictions on the market are socialism and should therefore be resisted tooth and nail". Ideologically, this is extreme 19th-century liberalism. Well brought-up Tories who acknowledge the importance of the market are also concerned about stability and the continuity of values.

Yours faithfully,
N. A. RUSSELL,
The Rectory, Oxford Road,
Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire.
March 13.

From Mr Patrick M. Forman

Sir, Sir Tim Bell advises us not to whinge about high rates of executive pay in the business world, on the grounds that these executives work for companies that are making profits.

In your previous issue (Business, March 10) you report that "compensation" paid out by the loss-making board of Kingfisher to four directors who had been ousted this year "would not exceed £3 million" while their shareholders suffered grievous losses.

If Sir Tim has ever experienced the costs and delays faced by individual shareholders who attempt to mount a protest under the Companies' Acts, he would know that it is in practice impossible. The belief in control by non-institutional shareholders is a chimera: they have to suffer in silence or stand accused of the politics of envy.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK FORMAN,
25 Devonshire Road, Cambridge.
March 14.

Single currency

From the Director General of the Institute of Directors

Sir, It is not the first time that the Institute of Directors has felt it right to provide a distinctive voice in the interests of British business ("Chambers back CBI stance on EMU", March 8) in the matter of pan-European monetary mechanisms, and indeed many other matters.

When Britain went into the European exchange-rate mechanism, without the Madrid conditions having been met, the IoD was the only representative business body consistently to warn against it. Not only were we proven to be justified in our warnings that ERM membership would prolong the recession, but our judgment that the markets would eventually blow us out was also correct.

EMU is a "super ERM" from which there would be no turning back and no escape would be permitted. Those who fail to weigh the disadvantages, particularly for small and medium-size companies, against the advantages will do UK business no favours.

Yours faithfully,
TIM MELVILLE-ROSS,
Director General,
Institute of Directors,
116 Pall Mall, SW1.
March 8.

From Mr R. L. Cheeseman

Sir, It is interesting to reflect perhaps that, if we had now a single European currency, there could not have been pressure on the pound or peseta or any other European currency. We would not be worrying about interest rate rises to protect the pound because the pound would not exist, only the ecu. Speculators would have to find a softer target than the ecu, but where?

I hear the squeals of protest about losing our beloved pound coming loud and clear, but what good has it been to us over the past 50 years? We have seen our position in Europe sink from the top of division one to a lowly one in division two. The need to protect sterling must bear the blame for much of this. Roll on the single European currency, the sooner the better.

Yours faithfully,
R. L. CHEESEMAN,
Willows, Stockley Lane,
Calne, Wiltshire.
March 7.

From Dr Alan Sked

Sir, John Major's difficulties with regard to Brussels (report, March 9) are entirely of his own making. By signing the Maastricht Treaty he committed himself to a process which he cannot now reverse. A "conviction politician" might have foreseen the problems involved, but Mr Major has no convictions. He is a classic "fixer" whose "fixes" are now coming apart.

There is no escape for him. He cannot "fix" the single currency — we must be in or out. Likewise, he cannot fudge over a federal Europe — we must be in or out. The brutal logic of the situation will destroy the Conservative Party before the end of the decade.

In or out? That is the question. We in the UK Independence Party at least know where we stand. We want out. So far, not even the Tory Eurosceptics and "rebels" agree with us. But our day will come.

Yours sincerely,
ALAN SKED (Leader),
UK Independence Party,
80 Regent Street, W1.
March 9.

Doubting Matthew

From the Reverend Andrew P. de Berry

Sir, One may sympathise with Matthew Parris's dilemma over Christianity (article, March 6; letters, March 9, 13). The "harsh" sayings of Jesus, which gave Parris the impression of "a teacher trying to frighten impressionable people", appear on an initial reading to render all of us beyond hope.

But supremely our Lord railed against the hypocrites of his day, who spoke, of all "men" as their brothers yet treated many of them like pariahs. Perhaps in His exasperation with their blindness He sought to use imagery of the most powerful kind.

It is clear throughout His teaching that Jesus reserved His most bitter condemnation for the self-righteous, while showing enormous compassion towards the rest of us — "publicans and sinners".

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW de BERRY,
The Vicarage, Southwell Road,
Thurgarton, Nottinghamshire.
March 6.

From the Reverend Brian Nicholson

Sir, Matthew Parris himself betrays a surprising intellectual laziness in his reading of the Gospels and his knock-down dismissal of Christianity. The cart of God's judgment is unwisely put before the horse of the self-giving love of Jesus. Scant regard is given to the context of what Christ said and to whom.

All would agree with Parris's old "Aunt Sally" that the fear of coming judgment is no worthy reason on its own for faith. Yet can one really believe (or not believe) in a God who is "infinitely kind, tolerant"? Surely his God would be so wet that no final accountability would exist for the wrongs of individuals or of society which his column sometimes points up. No infinitely tolerant parent would be truly loving — nor would such a God be.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN NICHOLSON,
St John's Vicarage,
Evergreen Drive, Colchester, Essex.

From the Reverend A. H. Mead

Sir, It is a pity that Bishop Richard Harries, in an otherwise admirable letter (March 9), uses the New English Bible's mistranslation of St Luke xii, 7. Our Lord told his friends that they were worth "many" not "any number" of sparrows. The Christian record on animal welfare is bad enough as it is.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH MEAD (Chaplain Emeritus),
St Paul's School,
Lonsdale Road, SW13.

From Mr John Ambrose

Sir, Matthew Parris's article prompts me to voice doubts that I have long had about the parable of the labourers in the vineyard (St Matthew, xx, 1-15). It will be recollected that those who turned up in the evening were paid just as much as those who had laboured all through the heat of the day.

Memories are long in rural districts and I doubt whether the vineyard owner found it easy to recruit labour the following year.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN AMBROSE,
66 London Street, Chertsey, Surrey.
March 6.

Business letters, page 25

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

Threat of 'arrest' to mentally ill

From the National Director of MIND and others

Sir, The Mental Health (Patients in the Community) Bill, which has its second reading on Thursday, has been introduced in the House of Lords because the Government views it as uncontroversial. On the contrary, a significant number of leading mental health, professional and patients' organisations are opposed to the Bill.

The Bill would allow health and social services authorities to impose requirements of residence, place of work, training and medical treatment on patients suffering from "mental disorder". In order to enforce this requirement, a "supervisor" — who could be a nurse, social worker, doctor or anyone they authorise, such as a police officer — would have the power forcibly to "take and convey" a patient to any of these places. This amounts to a new power of arrest.

These new measures risk contravening the European Convention of Human Rights. They could jeopardise the trusting relationships between patients and professionals; are likely to be used disproportionately against black people; and would not solve problems in community care which are caused by under-investment.

There would be no need for compulsion if existing and future services were those which people would use willingly and if such services were readily available in every community.

This Bill, as the Royal College of Nursing suggests, offers false reassurance to the public and patients and it may seriously undermine the therapeutic relationship between professional and patient. Introducing such threats to highly vulnerable members of society is anything but uncontroversial.

Yours faithfully,
JUDI CLEMENTS
(MIND),
DAVID COLVIN
(British Association of Social Workers),
DAVID CREPAZ-KEAY
(Survivors Speak Out),
PENNY LETTS
(Law Society),
JUNE McKERROW
(Mental Health Foundation),
BRIAN ROGERS
(Community Psychiatric Nurses Association),
JOHN WADHAM
(Liberty),
c/o MIND, Granta House,
15/19 Broadway,
Stratford, E15.
March 14.

Barings collapse

From Mr David Freeman

Sir, You and your correspondents, such as Professor Congden (March 4) and Professor Solomon (March 8), have emphasised the importance of maintaining confidence in our financial institutions in the wake of the Barings collapse. The City could restore and confirm it, to the long-term benefit of itself, by holding on trust a small contribution by each of its financial institutions, to be used by the trustees for the protection of depositors.

The Guarantee Protection Trust is able to secure the collective validity of 20-year guarantees, despite the isolated insolvency of individual contractors. The same concept could serve bankers and their depositors if, as in the Barings collapse, loss were to result from any cause so serious as to jeopardise an institution's ability to meet its obligations alone.

Yours etc,
DAVID FREEMAN
(Managing Director, Guarantee Protection Trust, 1983-92),
Stoneleigh, Coombe Lane, Naphill,
High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire.

Children's classics

From Mr John Rowe Townsend

Sir, It is intriguing that Anna Home, head of BBC children's programmes, for her address to the World Summit on Television and Children (report, March 13) chooses to "point to the success of recent BBC children's programmes such as *The Borrowers*, *Just William* and *Little Lord Fauntleroy*, which looked at the world from both children's and adults' point of view".

The Borrowers was first published in 1952, *Just William* in 1922, and *Little Lord Fauntleroy* in 1886. One might have expected their points of view to be those of present-day children's grandparents, great-grandparents and great-great-grandparents respectively.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN ROWE TOWNSEND,
72 Water Lane, Histon, Cambridge.
March 13.

Long odds

From Mr Martyn Chappell

Sir, The unusual incidence of racehorse trainers' birthdays in early March noted by Professor Garner (letter, March 10) has been accounted for by Colin Campbell's observation (letter, March 14) that Derby Day takes place some nine months earlier.

Look for a similar string of birthdays in the week before Christmas (the Cheltenham Festival takes place this week).

Yours faithfully,
MARTYN CHAPPELL,
31 Cadogan Place, SW1.
March 13.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 15: His Excellency Mr Mendi Msimang was received in audience by The Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Commission as High Commissioner for the Republic of South Africa in London.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following members of the High Commission: Mr G.J. Grobler (Deputy High Commissioner), Colonel G.A. Hallowes (Defence and Air Adviser), Colonel J. Fourie (First Secretary), Mr B.F. Kotze (First Secretary), Mr J.J. Christians (First Secretary, Economic), Mrs S. Singh (First Secretary), Miss T. Grobbelaar (First Secretary) and Mr B. Banda (Second Secretary).

Dr Tshabalala-Msimang was also received by Her Majesty.

Sir John Coles (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) was present and the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

Mrs Veronica Sutherland was received in audience by The Queen and kissed hands upon her appointment as Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Republic of Ireland.

Mr Sutherland was also received by The Queen.

Her Majesty held a Council at 12.30pm.

There were present: the Rt Hon Antony Newton MP (Lord President), the Rt Hon David Hunt MP (Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster) and the Rt Hon Sir John Wheeler MP (Minister of State, Northern Ireland Office).

The Rt Hon Timothy Eggar MP, Sir Michael Hutchison and Sir Alan Ward were sworn in as Members of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

Mr Nigel Nicholls was in attendance as Clerk of the Council.

At the Council The Queen pricked the List of High Sheriffs for the Counties of England (other than Cornwall and those in the Duchy of Lancaster) and Wales.

The Rt Hon Antony Newton MP had an audience of Her Majesty before the Council.

After the Council, the Rt Hon David Hunt MP had an audience of The Queen when Her Majesty pricked the List of High Sheriffs for the Counties of the Duchy of Lancaster.

The Rt Hon John Major MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of The Queen this evening.

March 15: The Princess Royal, President, the Rural Housing Trust, this morning opened the Rural Housing Scheme at Clipston and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Northamptonshire (Mr John Lowther).

Her Royal Highness, President, British Knitting and Clothing Export Council, later visited Fantasie of England, Rothwell Road, Desborough, Kettering.

The Princess Royal, Patron, SENSE - the National Deafblind and Rubella Association, this afternoon visited the SENSE shop, 75 Gold Street, Kettering.

Her Royal Highness, President, The Princess Royal Trust for Carers, afterwards opened the Kettering Carers Centre, 1 Meadow Road, Kettering.

Mrs Andrew Feilden was in attendance.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
March 15: The Prince of Wales left Egypt for Morocco this morning.

His Royal Highness arrived in Rabat this afternoon and was received by The Crown Prince.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 15: The Princess of Wales, Patron, the Leprosy Mission, this morning received representatives from the charity and supporters.

March 15: The Duchess of Gloucester this evening attended the 25th Anniversary Concert of the English Speaking Union Music Fund at Goldsmiths' Hall, London EC4.

Mrs Michael Wigley was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
March 15: The Duke of Kent, Vice-Chairman, the British Overseas Trade Board, this morning visited Meltog Limited, Gelderd Road, Birstall, West Yorkshire, and was met on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for West Yorkshire (Mr John Lyles).

His Royal Highness this afternoon visited S. Lyles Sons and Company Limited, Jilling Ing Mills, Earlsheaton, Dewsbury, and later visited Spencer and Halstead Limited, Bridge Works, Wakefield Road, Ossett, West Yorkshire.

The Duke of Kent, Grand Master, the United Grand Lodge of England, this evening attended a Board of Grand Stewards Dinner, the Savoy Hotel, Savoy Place, London WC2.

Mr Nicolas Adamson was in attendance.

FIONA HANSON



Mendi Msimang, the new High Commissioner for South Africa, leaving South Africa House, Trafalgar Square, in an open carriage with Vice-Admiral Sir James Weatherall, Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps, to present his credentials to the Queen at Buckingham Palace yesterday

Today's royal engagements

The Princess Royal, will visit Sir Thomas Rich's School, Oakleaze, Longlevens, at 10.55; as President of the Save the Children Fund, will visit the shop at 2 Regent Street, Cheltenham, at 12.10; and will present the Ritz Club charity trophy at the Cheltenham National Hunt racing festival, Cheltenham racecourse at 12.50.

The Duke of Kent will launch the BSCNet link to the Internet at IBM (UK), Upper Ground, London SE1, at 11.45; and, as trustee, will attend the annual dinner at the Science Museum at 7.30.

Birthdays today

Mr Matthew Bannister, controller, BBC Radio 1, 38; Miss Teresa Berganza, mezzo-soprano, 60; Mr Bernardo Bertolucci, film director, 54; the Right Rev Hugo de Waal, Bishop of Thetford, 60; Sir Philip Foreman, mechanical engineer, 72; Air Chief Marshal Sir Christopher Foxley-Norris, 78; Sir Ewart Jones, chemist, 84; Sir Anthony Kenny, president, British Academy, 64; Mr Leo McKern, actor, 75; Miss Georgina Nayler, director, National Heritage Memorial Fund, 36; Miss Kate Nelligan, actress, 44; Mr Roger Norrington, conductor, 61; Mr R.G. Puttick, former chairman, Taylor Woodrow, 79; Dame Lucie Rie, potter, 93; Miss Bridget Rowe, Editor, *The People*, 45; Mr John Watts, racehorse trainer, 53.

Epsom College

The Council of Epsom College announces that from September 1996 Epsom College will be offering places to girls from 13. There is a well established Sixth Form girls house at present which will continue until 1998 as a separate Sixth Form girls house, but the College will be going fully co-educational from September 1996.

Lord Lieutenant

Mr Robert Cameron Hastie to be Lord Lieutenant for West Glamorgan in succession to the late Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Michael Llewellyn.

Memorial services

Lord Reigate
The Speaker was represented by Mr Michael Morris, MP, at a memorial service for Lord Reigate held yesterday at St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey. Canon Donald Gray officiated. Mr Michael Whitfeld and Dr Joseph King, sons-in-law, read the lessons. Mr Enoch Powell gave an address.

The Lady Mayoress of Westminster and the Mayor of Reigate and Banstead and Mr R.N. Bowes were present. Sir Edward Heath, KG, MP, was represented by Sir David Madel, MP. Among others present were:

Lady Reigate (widow), the Hon Mrs King and the Hon Mrs Whitfeld (daughters), Mrs Joel Ford, Mr Nicholas Whitfeld, Mr Mark Whitfeld and Miss Melanie Whitfeld (grandchildren), Mr and Mrs William Cross (brother-in-law and sister-in-law), Dr Richard Cross (brother-in-law), Mrs Jonathan Martin, Mr Barnaby Jago, Mr Daniel Jago, Mr Francis Jago, Mr W R Worsley, Miss I C Vaughan Morgan, Captain and Mrs Graham Meredith, Mr and Mrs Patrick Kiliery.

The Earl and Countess of Effingham, the Earl of Cork and Orrery, the Earl of Lindsey and Abingdon, the Earl of Stockton, Viscountess Bearsted, Viscount Eccles, CH, Viscount Hood, Viscountess Macmillan of Ovenden, Viscount Watkinson, CH, and Viscountess Walkinson, Viscount Whitelaw, KT, CH, Lord and Lady Aberconway, Lord Aldington, Lord Bauer, Lord and Lady Boyd-Carpenter, Lord Carr of Hadley, Lord and Lady Colnbrook, Lord Eden of Winton, Lord Elliott of Morpeth, Lord and Lady Erroll of Hale.

Lord and Lady Fanshawe of Richmond, Lord and Lady Fraser of Kilmorack, Lady Freyberg, Lord Holderness, Lord Jenkin of Roding, Lord and Lady Killearn, Lord Mowbray and Stourton, Lord and Lady Murton of Lindisfarne, Lord and Lady Newall, Lord Orr-Ewing, Lord Peyton of Yeovil, Lord Renton, QC, Baroness Sharples, Lord Sherfield, Lord and Lady Simon of Glaisdale, Lord and Lady Strabolgi, Baroness Trumpington (also representing Chief Whip, House of Lords), Mrs Enoch Powell, Sir Nicholas Scott, MP, Mr John Biffin, MP.

The Hon Mrs Marr-Johnson, the Hon Lady (Cordelia) Vanneck, the Hon Lady Wrightson, Lady Abdy, Sir Tobias Clarke (Standing Council of the Baronetage), Sir Douglas and Lady Dodds-Parker, Lady Fisher, Lady (Peter) Foster, Sir George Gardiner, MP, Sir Gilbert Longden, Lady Loveridge, Sir Archibald and Lady Ross, Lady Sandilands, Sir Edmund and Lady Sargant, Sir William van Straubenzee, Sir Jerry Wiggin, MP, Sir Paul and Lady Wright, Baron Vaes, Mr Peter Ainsworth, MP, Miss Nancy Balfour, Mrs Humphrey Brooke, Dr and Mrs Peter Cannon-Brookes, Mr W Percy Grieve, QC, Mrs Marit Guinness Aschan, Mr and Mrs William Harris, Mr and Mrs A B C Harrison, Mr A J Kember, Mrs Martin McLaren, Mr Cliff Michelmore, Mr Peter Montague-Evans, Mrs D H Morgan, Mr and Mrs D T H Nicholson, Mr Kenneth Rose, Mr Francis Russell, Mr John Sclater, Mr John Smoker, Mrs Patrick Stirling, Mrs Edward Sutro, Brigadier and Mr P A S Tower, the Master and Assistants of the Marchant Taylors' Company, the Bench Chairman of Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court, the Chairman of the London Society and the Regimental Adjutant of the Welsh Guards.

Major-General W.M. Broomhall
A memorial service for Major-General William Maurice Broomhall was held yesterday at St Andrew's, Minley Manor, Blackwater, Camberley, Surrey. The Rev Adrian Pollard officiated. Major-General I. H. Lyall Grant, President of the Bengal Sappers and Miners Officers' Association, read from John Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*. General Sir George Cooper gave an address. Among those present were:

Miss Susan Broomhall, Mr S A Evans; Lord Newborough, Sir Stephen Waley-Cohen, General Sir John Stibbon (Chief Royal Engineer, representing the Corps of Royal Engineers), Professor Sir Alan Harris, Major-General K J Drewienkiewicz (Engineer-in-Chief), Major-General P C Shapland (Madras Sappers), Brigadier J R E Hamilton-Baillie, Major D.D. Alexander (Bengal Sapper Association), Captain G Fordyce (chairman, Blythe Sappers), Mr K Lockwood (Colditz Association), Mr H J Brooker (Colditz Society) and many other friends.

Captain Robert Wolrige Gordon of Esslemont

The Memorial Service for Captain R. Wolrige Gordon of Esslemont will take place in St Mary's Cathedral, Palmerston Place, Edinburgh, on Monday, April 10, 1995, at 2.30pm.

His Honour Edward Sutcliffe, QC

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of His Honour Edward Sutcliffe, QC, a Master of the Bench of the Inner Temple, will be held in the Temple Church on Thursday, March 30, 1995, at 5pm.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Pieter Hooft, poet, Amsterdam, 1581; Caroline Herschel, astronomer, Hanover, Germany, 1750; James Madison, 4th American President 1809-17, Port Conway, Virginia, 1751; Mathew Flinders, navigator, Donington, Lincolnshire, 1774; George Ohm, physicist, Erlanger, Germany, 1787; Rosa Bonheur, animal painter, Bordeaux, 1822; Camilo Branco, novelist, Lisbon, 1825.

DEATHS: Alexander III, King of Scotland 1249-86, Burntisland, Fyfe, 1286; Giovanni Pergolesi, composer, Pozzuoli, Italy, 1736; Jean Baptiste Rousseau, poet, Brussels, 1741; Robert Surtees, novelist, Brighton, 1864; Aubrey Beardsley, illustrator, Menton, 1898; John James Macleod, physiologist, pioneer of insulin, Nobel laureate 1923, Aberdeen, 1935; Sir Austen Chamberlain, Foreign Secretary 1924-29, Nobel peace laureate, 1925, London, 1937; Selma Lagerlof, novelist, Nobel laureate 1909, Marbacka, Sweden, 1940; Constantin Brancusi, sculptor, Paris, 1957; William Henry Beveridge, Baron Beveridge, pioneer of social security, Oxford, 1963.

The American Military Academy was established at West Point, 1802.

The first liquid-propelled rocket was launched by American physicist Dr Robert Goddard, 1926.

Adolf Hitler renounced the "Treaty of Versailles" and introduced conscription, 1935.

The Queen opened the new London Bridge, 1973.

Luncheon

British Red Cross
Mrs Nicholas Saint, Chairman of the British Red Cross International Ladies Luncheon Committee, presided at a luncheon held yesterday at Harrods in aid the of British Red Cross' 125th birthday appeal. The Countess of Limerick, chairman of council, Mr John F. Gray, director of public affairs, and Mr Michael Cole, director of public affairs, Harrods, were the speakers. Countess Mountbatten of Burma, Viscountess Chelsea, Baroness Flather, and Miss Esther Rantzen were among the guests.

High Sheriffs

High Sheriffs, appointed by Her Majesty in Council for the year 1995:

England (except Cornwall, Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Lancashire):

Avon - James Napier Tidmarsh, Clifton, Bristol.
Bedfordshire - Brian Guy Woodrow, Bedford.
Berkshire - Sir William Richard Benyon, Theale, near Reading.
Buckinghamshire - Sir Henry Egerton Aubrey-Fletcher, Chilton, Aylesbury.
Cambridgeshire - Mrs Margaret Elspeth Thomas, Stirtloe, Huntingdon.
Cheshire - John Michael Pickering, Marston-cum-Lache, Chester.
Cleveland - The Hon David John Dugdale, Crathorne, Yarm.
Cumbria - Hugh William Lawson, Carlisle.
Derbyshire - John Maddox Morgan-Owen, Melbourne.
Devon - James Humphrey George Woollcombe, Plympton, near Plymouth.
Dorset - John Derek Wrighton, Preston, Weymouth
Durham - Robert Sale, Darlington.
East Sussex - Alan Alfred Michael Mays-Smith, Heathfield.
Essex - Christopher Ferens Pertwee, Frating, Colchester
Gloucestershire - Frederick Hugh Philip Hamilton Wills, Rendcomb, Cirencester.
Greater London - Graham James Hearne, London NW3.
Hampshire - Commander Miles James Rivett-Carnac, RN (Rtd), Winchester.
Hereford and Worcester - Hugh Bernard Derbyshire, Upton-upon-Severn.
Hertfordshire - Nicholas Guy Halsey, Gaddesden Row, near Hemel Hempstead.
Humberside - Frank Alan Flear, Waltham, Grimsby.
Isle of Wight - John James Woodward Attrill, Whitewell.
Kent - Robin John Baker White, Street End, Canterbury.
Leicestershire - Joseph Cowen, Laughton Hills, Lutterworth.
Lincolnshire - David Kenneth Baker, Gedney Dyke, Spalding.
Norfolk - John Oliver Charles Birkbeck, Litcham.
Northampton - James Mackaness, Church Brampton.
Northumberland - Anthony Russell Wood, Riding Mill.
North Yorkshire - The Hon Simon Bartholomew Geoffrey Howard, Castle Howard, York.
Nottinghamshire - George Edmund Peter Thornhill, Winthorpe, Newark.
Oxfordshire - John Stuart Bridgeman, Hornton, Banbury.
Shropshire - Nicholas Edward Egerton Stephens, Montford Bridge, Shrewsbury.
Somerset - Roy Scrymgeour Graham Hewett, Mells, Frome.
South Yorkshire - Peter Wilton Lee, Fulwood, Sheffield.
Staffordshire - Mrs Joanna Mary Monckton, Stafford.
Suffolk - Sir Richard William Hyde Parker, Long Melford.
Surrey - Lady Hamilton of Dalzell, Betchworth.
Tyne and Wear - Dr Alan William Lillington, Sunderland.
Warwickshire - Stephen Geoffrey Evans, Weston under Wetherley, Leamington Spa.
West Midlands - Professor Sir Frederick William Crawford, Edgbaston, Birmingham.
West Sussex - Hugh Rowland Wyatt, Cissbury, Findon.
West Yorkshire - Edward Neil Pullan, Bramhope, near Leeds.
Wiltshire - David John Randolph, Grittleton, Chippenham.

Wales
Clwyd - William Field Glazebrook, Bodfari, Denbigh.
Dyfed - Ieuan Wyn Jones, Ludchurch, Narberth.
Gwent - Richard John Cleeve, Penrhos, Raglan.
Gwynedd - William Wyn Roberts, Port Dinorwic.
Mid Glamorgan - Byron Frederick Butler, Aberkenfig.
Powys - Peter English, Abermule, Montgomery.
South Glamorgan - John Wynford Evans, St Fagans, Cardiff.
West Glamorgan - John Duart Willard Maclean, Carmarthen, Dyfed.

Duchy of Lancaster

The Queen pricked the names of the following High Sheriffs on the Lites for the ensuing year:
Lancashire - Ralph William Goodall, of Hoghton, Preston.
Greater Manchester - Major Edmund Travis Gartside, of Bamford, Rochdale.
Merseyside - Anthony Wilson Shone, of West Kirby, Wirral.

Guild of Freemen of the City of London

The following have been installed officers of the Guild of Freemen of the City of London:
Master, Mr Alderman Clive H. Martin; Senior Warden, Vice-Admiral Sir Peter Buchanan; Renter Warden, Lord Finsberg; Junior Warden, Mr Norman S. Munday; Under Warden, Mr Terry Nemko.

Appointment

Mr Michael Fitzherbert-Brockholes to be Constable of Lancaster Castle in succession to the late Earl of Derby.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr C.M. Bourlet and Miss A.J.F. Farrell
The engagement is announced between Christopher, elder son of Mr and Mrs Alan Bourlet, of South Glamorgan, and Amanda, elder daughter of Mr Joe Farrell and the late Mrs J. Farrell, of London.

Mr G.K. Doherty and Miss E.C.F. Tomkinson
The engagement is announced between Graeme, second son of Mr and Mrs Patrick Doherty, of New Plymouth, New Zealand, and Emma, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Tomkinson, of Oxton, Birkenhead.

Mr J.A. Harvey Wood and Miss E.J. Warren
The engagement is announced between Julian, son of Mr Andrew and Mrs Jocelyn Harvey Wood, of Miserden, Gloucestershire, and Emma, daughter of Mr Anthony and Mrs Christine Warren, of Beckenham, Kent.

Mr P. Hogg and Ms E. Tenbeth
The engagement is announced between Peter, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Adam Hogg, of Marlow, Buckinghamshire, and Elaine, daughter of Mr and Mrs Charles Tenbeth, of Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire.

Mr B.R. Linklater and Mrs M.W.H. Buckingham
The engagement is announced between Barrie Reith Linklater, of Chaddleworth, Berkshire, and Mary Wilhelmina Harwood Buckingham, née Burrows, of St Albans, Hertfordshire.

Mr S.J. Miller and Miss H.C. Watson
The engagement is announced between Stuart James, son of Mr and Mrs V.A. Miller, of Orpington, Kent, and Heather Claire, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs J.S. Watson, of Biddenham, Bedford.

Mr R.J. Noordhoek Hegt and Miss J.L. Clifford-Smith
The engagement is announced between Robert Jan, second son of Mr and Mrs Pieter Jan Noordhoek Hegt, of Bussum, Holland, and Jane, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs John Clifford-Smith, of Ownham, Berkshire.

Mr M. Salvi and Miss N.C. Harrisson
The engagement is announced between Marco, son of Signor Victor Salvi and of Signora Martha Perozzo Salvi, of Genoa, Italy, and Nathalie, daughter of Mr and Mrs Ralph Harrisson, of Chelsea, London.

Mr M.A. Thompson and Miss C.V.T. Mach
The engagement is announced between Mark Anthony, second son of Mr and Mrs Ednold Thompson, of Nassau, Bahamas, and Charlotte Victoria Truitt, only daughter of Dr and Mrs J. Steven C. Mach, II, of Winter Park and Palm Beach, Florida, USA, formerly of Alverstoke, Hampshire.

Captain R.J. Thomson and Miss H.C. Reakes-Williams
The engagement is announced between Captain Robert Thomson, The Royal Green Jackets, eldest son of the Rev and Mrs Miles Thomson, of Sevenoaks, and Hilary, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Reakes-Williams, of Norbury, Shropshire.

Mr J.J. Wright and Miss G. Parrish
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of Mr J. Michael Wright, of Harrogate, and Mrs Pamela Haxton, of Chippenham, and Genevieve, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Edward Parrish, of Epsom, Surrey.

United World Colleges

Queen Noor of Jordan and Mr Nelson Mandela, President of South Africa, are to be joint presidents of the United World Colleges and their International Council in succession to the Prince of Wales.

Dinners

Coachmakers' and Coach Harness Makers' Company
Mr Alan Maidens, Master of the Coachmakers' and Coach Harness Makers' Company, presented the Coachmakers' motor car centenary bursary to Mr Scott Brookes at a livery dinner held last night at Plaisterers' Hall. Mr Jeffrey Rose, Mrs Morag Barton and Mr John Towers also spoke.

Royal College of Anaesthetists
The Lord Mayor of Westminster and Mr Gerald Malone, Minister for Health, attended the anniversary dinner of the Royal College of Anaesthetists held last night at the Royal College of Surgeons of England. Professor Cedric Prys-Roberts, president, was the host. Sir Donald Irvine and Sir Christopher Paine, President of the Royal College of Radiologists, were the speakers. Earlier, Professor Pierre Foëx delivered the Frederic Hewitt lecture and the president presented the Dudley Buxton prize to Dr Archie Brain and the college medal to Professor William Fitch.

Bankers' Taxation Circle
Lord Templeman was the guest speaker at the 40th anniversary dinner of the Bankers' Taxation Circle held last night at the Caledonian Club. Mr C.R. Othen presided.

Sports Aid Foundation
Sir Laurence Verney, Recorder of London, Alderman Sir Alexander Graham (Lord Mayor *locum tenens*) and Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare were the speakers at the annual dinner of the Sports Aid Foundation held last night at Guildhall. Mr Paul Zetter presided. Sir Hector Monro, MP, Sir Neil Macfarlane, Mr Iain Sproat, Minister for Sport, Mr Robert Atkins, MP and Mr Richard Tracey, MP, were among the guests.

European Association of Professional Secretaries
The European Association of Professional Secretaries held its UK Annual Dinner at the Hyatt Carlton Tower Hotel on March 15. Sir Ian Prosser, Chairman of Bass PLC, was the guest of honour and speaker. Mrs Janis Nowak, UK National Secretary, was the host. Mr Donald Kirkham and Ms Elizabeth Crichton also spoke.

City Women's Network
Alison Thorne, Chairman, presided at the Annual Dinner of City Women's Network held on Monday, March 13, at Trinity House. Clare Spottiswoode, Director General of Gas Supply, was the guest speaker. Honorary members present were Rosalind Gilmore, CB, Prue Leith, OBE, and Stella Rimington.

Reception

British Safety Council
Mr Neville Trotter, MP, was the host at a reception held last night at the House of Commons for the British Safety Council's Diploma in Safety Management and Associateship of the Faculty of Risk Management awards.

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Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting; but the woman who fears the Lord is honoured. Proverbs 31 : 30 (REB)

BIRTHS

ABBOTT - On 10th March 1995, to Christopher and Karen (née Kendall), a daughter, Katharine (Katie) Louise, a sister for Thomas.

BAILEY - On March 9th 1995 at St Mary's Hospital, Portsmouth, to Alison (née Duffield) and Matthew, a son, Robert Douglas, a brother for Fergus.

BELL - On January 21st 1995 at The Matilda and War Memorial Hospital in Hong Kong to Justin (née Day) and Julian, a beautiful daughter (Tatiana Victoria).

BERRY - On 13th March 1995, to Vanessa (née Evans) and James, a daughter, Cosima Inez Candida, a sister for Hector.

CARDOE - On 11th March, to Milly (née Mackintosh) and Martin, a son, Alexander Christian, brother for Oliver.

CHARTERIS - On Sunday 12th March, to Kathryn and Jamie, a daughter, Esme Iris, a sister for Felix.

COOPER - David and Cheryl (née Martin), a son, born at Royal Bonkswood Hospital, Worcester, on 19th December 1994. A much treasured son, Matthew Edward.

ENOCH - On February 16th, to Angela (née Fox) and Simon, a daughter, Charlotte Victoria. Many thanks to all the staff at the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital.

GRAY - On 14th March 1995, to Sarah (née Kendal) and Paul, a son, Christopher Spencer Pepys.

GUEST - On March 12th, to Henrietta (née Coode-Adams) and David, a daughter, Jemima Charlotte.

HISCOX - On 14th March 1995, to Sarah and Renshaw, a son.

HOWELL - On 13th February, to Jane Elizabeth (née Henderson) and Andrew, a beautiful daughter, Gabriella, a sister for Emily-Jane.

KOETS - Fleur on March 14th born at The Portland Hospital, daughter of Paul and Godelieve Koets.

BIRTHS

MALDOOM - On March 10th at The Portland Hospital, to Isabelle and Fraser, a daughter, Alice Grace Alexander.

MILLER - On 14th March 1995 in Costa Rica, to Yasuko and Julian, a son, Adam Takuma.

STINTON - On 14th March, to Caroline (née Wallis) and Julian, a son, Alexander James.

WOO - On 13th March 1995 at The Portland Hospital, to Sylvaine (née Nie) and Dawson Ka Chung, a son, Chi Kin, weighs 2.745 kg.

DEATHS

BOOTH-TUCKER - On March 13th, peacefully at Glebe Court, Lewisham, Muriel Veronica, Colonel Salvation Army aged 91, daughter of Commissioner Frederick St George de Lautour Booth-Tucker, last surviving granddaughter of William Booth. Funeral Service at SA Hall, Bromley, Kent, Monday March 20th 2.15 pm followed by cremation at Beckenham. No flowers, but donations may be sent to 2 Blackheath Rise, SE13 7PM for Evangeline Booth Hospital, Emeri, Ndubrohu, India.

BRASSEY - On Tuesday 14th March 1995 in Peterborough District Hospital, The Hon. Peter aged 87. Husband of Romayne and father of Rowena, Harry and Richard. Funeral Service at Barnack Church on Monday 20th March at 2.30 pm. Followed by burial in Apethorpe Churchyard to which family only are invited. Enquiries to R.J. Scholes, Funeral Directors, 18 Empingham Road, Stamford, Lincs. tel: (0780) 63092.

CHADWYCK-HEALEY - Viola, on March 14th, peacefully at dawn, aged 82 years. Private family cremation. Date of Memorial Service to be announced shortly.

DEATHS

EDWARDS - Robert, on March 13th, much loved son of Jill and Dermot Edwards, Bushfield, Lismore, Co. Waterford.

GODBOLD - On 12th March 1995, peacefully in her sleep at James Paget Hospital, Patricia Godbold aged 54 years. Wife of the late John Christopher Godbold, sadly missed by Simon and Ian and her family and friends. Funeral Service takes place at Reading Crematorium on Tuesday 21st March 1995 at 2 pm. Family flowers only please but donations, if desired, for The McMillan Nurses and Cancer Research may be sent c/o L. Fulcher, 80 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk.

HAMILTON - On 14th March, in Arbroath, Major (ret'd) Gavin "Black Jock" Hamilton. Peacefully at home with his loving wife Jane beside him. Husband, father to Susan and Jane and grandfather. Funeral Service at Mackay's Funeral Home, Arbroath, at 2.30 pm on Friday 17th March, thereafter at Friockheim Crematorium. Family flowers, but donations may be made in lieu to Cancer Research.

HEDLEY - On February 19th, Patricia, sister of Olwen Hedley and Dorothy Bath. Biochemist and gentle campaigner for Animal Welfare and the Environment.

HERIOT - Alexander John FRCS, MS, FDSRCS, peacefully at home on 14th March 1995, aged 80 years, after a courageous fight. Retired Consultant Surgeon King's College Hospital, London and late Postgraduate Dean of the South East Thames Region. Dearly beloved husband of Cynthia and the late Christine, greatly loved and devoted caring father of John, Christopher, Jenny and Sandy. Funeral private. No flowers or letters please.

DEATHS

HILLS - Charles, died suddenly at home on Sunday 12th March 1995, aged 82 years, beloved husband to Mary and father to John. Will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral Service on Monday 20th March 1995 at 1.45 pm at All Saints Parish Church, High Wycombe, followed by a committal service at the Chilterns Crematorium, Amersham. Flowers please or donations, if desired, to "The Children's Society" c/o Stuart Price Funeral Service, 13 Hill Avenue, Amersham, Bucks. HP6 5BD.

LACE - Cyril, on 14th March 1995, peacefully in his sleep at Cranhill Nursing Home, Bath, aged 91. Formerly Headmaster of Cabin Hill School Belfast, and master at Malvern College and Secretary of The Malvernian Society. Private cremation. A Memorial Service will be held at Malvern on a date to be announced.

LANGTON - On March 10th 1995, peacefully in London, Claire, beloved wife of the late David Langton, dearly loved mother of Linda and Christopher, stepmother of Simon, Andrew and Robin. Sadly missed by all her grandchildren. Funeral private. Enquiries to Paul Bysouth Funeral Services, Crowborough. (01892) 655000.

MALAN - Dagmar died at Greenbanks Nursing Home, Liphook, Hampshire, on 14th March 1995. Known as "Dickie" to her many friends and relatives. She is with her beloved Pat again. Cremation at Guildford Crematorium at 2 pm on 23rd March next.

DEATHS

MAPLETHORPE - On March 13th 1995, Margery Bessie aged 96 years, widow of Cyril W. Maplethorpe, formerly Director of Glaxo plc and former President of the Pharmaceutical Society. Funeral Service to take place at St Mary's Church, Hertingfordbury, on Monday 20th March at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only please but donations to Age Concern may be sent to Alfred Scales Ltd., 11 Church Street, Hertford, SG14 1EJ.

O'CALLAGHAN - On March 14th, peacefully at home in Eaglescliffe, aged 81 years, Winifred (wife of the late Dr. Jerome O'Callaghan), a darling mother and grandmother. Fortified by her faith and her family. Requiem Mass at St Cuthbert's Church, Yarm Road, Stockton-on-Tees, on Monday 20th March at 12.30 pm followed by private cremation, prior to interment at a later date in South Shields. At her request, no silly travelling, but if wished flowers, or donations to the Royal Medical Benevolent Fund, may be sent in lieu. Donations and all enquiries to Crake & Mallon Funeral Service, 45 Norton Road, Stockton, tel: (01642) 611716. Deo Gratias. R.I.P.

SELOUS - Miranda on 13th March, much loved sister of Gavin, mother of Gerald, Sarah and Andrew and grandmother of Edmund, Grace and Jay. Funeral on 17th March, 1.15 pm, St Lawrence, Chobham. No flowers please but donations, if desired, to C.U.T.S. and Stoke Mandeville Hospital.

SHEPHEARD - On 16th March 1995, Alice Mary (Peg) MBE, aged 98 years. Dearly loved wife of the late Hugh Beaumont Shepheard OBE, and daughter of the late Mr and Mrs B. Prior Allen. Funeral at Putney Vale Crematorium 2 pm Thursday 23rd March. Family flowers only to Chelsea Funeral Directors, (0171) 352-0008.

SILVERLIGHT - John Andrew, on March 13th 1995, husband of Pamela, father of Jonathan and Charles and grandfather of Rosanna and Rachel. Funeral Service 11.30 am March 21st at Mortlake Crematorium. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to The Stroke Association.

SPRINGER - On March 11th, suddenly at Wycombe General Hospital, Sally Ann aged 27 years, Medical Practitioner. Will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral Service on Tuesday March 21st at St Andrew's Church, Hatters Lane, High Wycombe, Bucks, at 1.15 pm, followed by cremation at Chilterns Crematorium, Amersham. Flowers to David Silvey & Son or donations to Marlow Pastoral Foundation, 25 Newtown Road, Marlow, Bucks. SL7 1JY.

STURCH - Suddenly on March 9th at Reading, Digby, much loved father of Richard and Nicholas, aged 86. Funeral at Reading Crematorium on Monday March 20th at 1.45 pm. Family flowers only but donations may be sent to The Children's Society c/o Co-operative Funeral Services, 572 Wokingham Road, Earley, Reading.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

BEADLE - A commemoration of the life of Geoffrey R.M. Beadle will be held in St Paul's Church, Canterbury, on Thursday 23rd March at 11.30 am.

IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE

CRACKNELL - In ever loving memory of Freda, dearly beloved first wife of Desmond and mother of Valerie, Vivienne, Roger and Victor, who passed away on March 16th 1980. Our brave, brave "wee one" now safe in the arms of God.

SMITH - In loving memory of Betty and Rosamund - Ian.

BIRTHDAYS

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OBITUARIES

LORD MULLEY

Lord Mulley, PC, former Cabinet Minister and Labour MP for the Park division of Sheffield, 1950-83, died yesterday aged aged 76. He was born on July 3, 1918.



ALTHOUGH unremarkable in appearance, no orator and without much popular appeal Fred Mulley enjoyed a solidly successful political career until his deselection in 1982 by the constituency he had represented for more than thirty years. It was his misfortune to be primarily remembered for the occasion on which — as Secretary of State for Defence — he fell asleep in the presence of the Queen while watching a Silver Jubilee air display in 1977. Yet well before then he had occupied, with competence if without distinction, a succession of ministries ranging from Aviation through Transport to Education. If he was never exactly "a safe pair of hands" — he was, in fact, notably accident-prone — he was regarded by both Harold Wilson and James Callaghan as a dependable and trustworthy colleague.

The secret of his value to two successive Labour Prime Ministers lay in the fact that he was that rare phenomenon — a sponsored trade union MP who happened also to be an intellectual. He served for a total of ten years on the Labour Party's National Executive Committee, becoming the party chairman in 1974-75; but he never had to risk standing for election in the constituency section, being returned (if irregularly) by the block votes of the union barons as a representative of the clerical workers in the trade union section. He was also a prominent Labour pro-European, playing his part in the early days of both the Council of Europe and of the Western European Union (of which he was president, 1980-83).

Frederick William Mulley was the son of a labourer who won a grammar school place to Warwick School. When the Second World War broke out in 1939 he joined the Army, attaining the rank of lance-sergeant before being captured at Dunkirk in 1940. He spent the next five years in prisoner-of-war camps in Poland, East Prussia and Bavaria, using the time to pass examinations in a number of subjects, including economics and banking.

On repatriation in 1945, he won a scholarship to Christ Church, Oxford, where he took a first in Philosophy, Politics and Economics. He then won a postgraduate research studentship to Nuffield College. From Oxford he went to Cambridge, where from 1948 to 1950 he was research fellow in economics at St Catharine's College. He was an MA of both universities.

Mulley, who had been a member of the Labour Party since 1936, first tried to enter Parliament in 1945, when he contested the safe Conservative seat of Sutton Coldfield. After his election for the Park division of Sheffield five years later, he served on the Select Committee on Estimates, was a member of a parliamentary delegation which visited Germany in 1951 and during the same year was parliamentary private secretary to the Minister of Works. In 1957 he was a member of a parliamentary delegation to Kenya. He travelled widely on parliamentary missions in Europe, the United States, the Soviet Union, Africa and Asia.

He was Deputy Defence Secretary and Minister for the Army under Denis Healey, 1964-65; Minister of Aviation 1965-76; Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office and Minister for Disarmament 1967-69; Minister of Transport 1969-70; Minister for Transport, Department of the Environment, under Anthony Crosland, 1974-75; and Secretary of State for Education and Science, 1975-76.

His most controversial action as Education Secretary was to direct the Conservative-controlled Tameside Council in Greater Manchester to go comprehensive. The dispute began in May 1975, when the Conservatives gained control of Tameside Metropolitan District on a promise to retain the area's five grammar schools. They set about implementing a return to selection procedures but were restrained by a directive from Mulley under Section 68 of the 1944 Education Act empowering the Minister to intervene if satisfied that an authority was acting or preparing to act unreasonably.

The Court of Appeal ruled that the Tameside authority was being reasonable in going ahead with its plans to select pupils and there was jubilation among Conservatives when the House of Lords, to whom Mulley had appealed, unanimously decided that he had acted unlawfully in issuing his directive. Mulley expressed disappointment but accepted the ruling.

As a Minister he was always the target of considerable abuse — originating perhaps with the derisive label given to the 1964 Labour Government of "a show called Fred" (a gibe based on the number of members of it — Mulley, Willey, Peart, Lee etc — who bore that particular Christian name). In his last ministerial job at Defence he had to listen to constant grumbling in the ranks about reductions in the military budget. He vigorously denied press allegations of a serious lack of confidence between him and the Chiefs of Staff and countered Conservative charges that his policy bore little relation either to Britain's defence requirements or to the international situation by arguing that Labour considered it important to work for genuine peace and disarmament while providing defence at a price the nation could afford.

In August 1977 he publicly apologised to the Queen for "dozing" while seated next to her at the Silver Jubilee Review of the RAF at Finningley, near Doncaster. Photographs taken during a fly-past showed him first yawning and then with his head resting on one hand and his eyes closed. Subsequently the expression "I am off to take a short Mulley" was said to have gained currency in officers' messes from Aldershot to the Rhineland. Mulley described the incident as "extremely embarrassing". He explained that he had had a long night at Westminster and, despite the noise of the fly-past, thought he was going to pass out from sheer exhaustion.

Later the same year he again found himself at the centre of a lively controversy when he said in the Commons that he had no objection in principle to the Armed Forces having union membership and negotiating about pay. He never won the respect of the Services in the way, for example, that his predecesssor-but-one, Denis Healey, had done.

Mulley was made a Privy Counsellor in October 1964 and continuously held office through the first and second Wilson Governments and then again from 1974 to 1979. He was created a life peer in 1984, having been displaced from his renamed seat in Sheffield by a left-wing MEP at the general election of the previous year. He was sponsored as an MP first by the Clerical and Administrative Workers' Union and then by the Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff.

He was the author of a book *The Politics of Western Defence*, first published in 1962. He was also a barrister and an accountant. One of his main interests was adult education and at one time he lectured for the Workers' Educational Association.

He leaves a widow and two daughters.

JOHN SILVERLIGHT

John Silverlight, journalist, died on March 13 aged 75. He was born on November 24, 1919.



THE most durable proof of John Silverlight's outstanding skill as a sub-editor is the collection of writings from *The Observer*'s first two centuries (*The Observer Observed*) which he co-edited with Joanna Anstey in 1991. Cutting 200 years to about 300 pages could be, he said, "a cruel business". This was a heartfelt remark, for to him *Observer* journalists, when he joined the paper in 1960, were "gods". Yet he cut the prose of J. L. Garvin, Arthur Koestler, Kenneth Tynan, Patrick O'Donovan and many other godlike writers with every sign of enjoyment. The book could not be made without harsh selection and compression. Sacrifices had to be made for the whole, as was done every week to bring out the newspaper.

The ruthless cutting often required of "subs" to fit articles into the space available does not normally endear them to writers but Silverlight had the rare ability to win the trust of the men and women whose copy he "subbed". His perfectionism and respect for learning and good writing were evident to everyone.

To reporters he was an ally not an adversary; he made them feel good, while trimming their masterpieces. He wrote elegant headlines and knew what he was looking for but he was self-effacing and could be lavish with praise. Work he admired was "pure gold" and someone he hero-worshipped, he would say, "writes like an angel". This phrase was picked up by Michael Frayn and put into the mouth of a character in *Towards the End of the Morning*, a satire on Fleet Street which grew out of Frayn's years as a *Guardian* and *Observer* columnist.

Silverlight had a general but complex personality that would interest a novelist. He was well-read and knew classical history well enough to lecture on it. He wrote a book, *The Victor's Dilemma*, published in 1970, about the Allied intervention in Russia after the Bolshevik Revolution. He was knowledgeable about music, especially Schubert and Mozart and the operas of Richard Strauss. *The Observer*, he noted, was born in the same year as *The Magic Flute*. He was a worrier and did not conceal emotion.

His background was unusual, though he was tentative about the accuracy of what he called his second and third-hand evidence for it. His father, he understood, was a Jew, born Hezekiel Silberlicht in or near Lublin in 1888, when it was part of Imperial Russia. The young man fled from pogroms to Hamburg, where he was converted to Christianity. He emigrated to Canada, where he was ordained a Church of England priest.

John was born in Chatsworth, Ontario. His mother was a Canadian who died when he was less than a year old. In 1927 the family moved to California, where the Rev Andrew C. Silverlight and his second wife, Seraphine, daughter of the Hamburg missionary, became naturalised Americans. But they all moved again, in 1933, to England and a rectory at Wood Walton in the Fens.

Silverlight was educated at Seaford College and Queens', Cambridge, but between school and university served throughout the war with the Royal Artillery. He had joined the Army Reserve of Officers in June 1939 and embarked for Egypt two days before Britain declared war on Germany. He saw action in Greece, Crete and Libya and was badly wounded before the battle of El Alamein. He recovered in hospitals in Egypt and South Africa. Captain Silverlight served, after the war, in Palestine and left the Army in 1946.

After reading English at Cambridge, where he performed in the Footlights, he joined *The Eastern Daily Press* in Norwich. He went to work on the *Continental Daily Mail* in Paris in 1949 and was with the *Daily Mail* in Edinburgh and London, before settling at *The Observer* in 1960.

At various times during his 24 years with that paper, he edited news pages, leader pages, profiles (considered a vital ingredient of the newspaper), and was deputy editor of the colour magazine. There he continued to display his impassioned interest in words and grammar. He subbed the work of the most distinguished contributors and was once overheard discussing the use of "which" and "that" with Graham Greene.

The passion for language generated the "Words" column which he continued to write for nine years after he retired in 1984. Macmillan published two collections of the 284-word columns in which Silverlight asked and sought answers to questions and never talked down to his readers.

Silverlight was not proud or ambitious in any conventional sense but he did take pride in being an assistant editor to David Astor, in an extended profile of Conor Cruise O'Brien he wrote for *The Observer* magazine and in his war service "in defence of the country I live in". But he remained a Canadian citizen to the end.

He is survived by his wife Pamela, whom he married in 1949, and by his two sons.

LADY BRIGID NESS

Lady Brigid Ness, formerly Princess Friedrich of Prussia, died on March 8 aged 74. She was born on July 30, 1920.

LADY BRIGID NESS was a member of the Guinness brewing family, and formerly the wife of Prince Friedrich of Prussia (grandson of Kaiser Wilhelm II). She was reported to be one of Britain's wealthiest women but, unlike much of her family, she shunned public life and was not at all interested in politics. She was essentially a quiet and modest English gentlewoman who spent much of her life farming in Hertfordshire, gardening or boating off the Sussex coast.

Brigid Katharine Rachel Guinness, as she was born, was the youngest of the three daughters of Rupert, 2nd Earl of Iveagh. Her father was the head of the brewing family business and was also one of the country's leading agricultural reformers. Her mother, Lady Gwendolen, elder daughter of the 4th Earl of Onslow, was equally interested in politics and succeeded her husband in 1927 as MP for Southend — when he took his seat in the Lords — being one of the earliest women MPs.

Lady Brigid was the sister of Lady Honor Channon, the wife of "Chips" Channon, the political diarist. Channon recalled Duff Cooper holding Brigid's hand at the party he gave after the Coronation of George VI, and his delight when his friend, Prince Friedrich of Prussia, announced he was marrying her.

Prince Friedrich, known as "Fritzi", was a great-great grandson of Queen Victoria. Born in Berlin, he was a handsome, Nordic figure, raised at the Cecilienhof Palace in Potsdam. He was a particular favourite of Queen Mary and managed to establish a rapprochement between her and the old Kaiser, later in their lives.

The Prince came to live in England in 1937 and when the war broke out he was an undergraduate at Cambridge. It was originally announced that he would not be interned but in 1940 he was sent to Canada, in the general round-up of almost all enemy aliens. There he remained until the following year when the fear



of invasion had passed. He returned to England and was occupied in agricultural work until the end of the war. Lady Brigid spent the war serving as a nurse.

They were married in July 1945, on her 25th birthday, and had three sons and two daughters, one son and daughter being twins (in 1977 the twin girl, Antonia, a striking beauty, married the Marquess of Douro, heir to the Duke of Wellington). At first they took the name Mansfield though later they adopted the surname of von Preussen for themselves and their descendants. They remained in England, farming in Hertfordshire at Patmore Hall, Little Hadham.

However, the marriage was not without its strains, and the Prince's death when it came was dramatic. In April 1966 he disappeared mysteriously from Schloss Rheinhartshausen, his German home near Wiesbaden, at the same time as divorce proceedings were instituted by his wife. The reason was later given as "incompatibility".

On May 1, after many reports in the press, the Prince's body was found in the Rhine near Bingen. He was wearing the cufflinks given to him by George V. The cause of his death, despite much speculation, was never established.

The following year, his widow married Major Patrick Ness, of the Queen's Bays. They continued to farm and to live at Patmore Hall, and at homes in Aberfeldy and Perthshire. Lady Brigid also inherited, from her father who died in 1967, two houses on the coast at Bosham, Sussex. She and her husband were enthusiastic sailors until Patrick Ness's stroke in 1989 put a stop to strenuous activities.

Their other main interest was racing. Major Ness had been an amateur rider, a trainer at the Jockey Club of Kenya and served as Starter of the Jockey Club from 1959 to 1969. Together they owned a brood mare, Nicky's Vulgan, and their best horse was Magellan, trained by Jeremy Hindley, which enjoyed several wins over hurdles and fences.

Lady Brigid is survived by her three sons and two daughters. Her husband died in 1993.

DAVID WESTERN, GC

David Western, GC, who won the Albert Medal (later translated to George Cross) for a childhood rescue attempt, died in Plymouth on March 12 from Alzheimer's disease aged 57. He was born in London on April 26, 1937.

A BITINGLY cold afternoon in a lonely Middlesex park in the February of 1948 was the scene for the extraordinary acts of bravery — and sheer persistence — which won David Western the Albert Medal. He was ten years old at the time. Apart from Anthony Farrer, aged eight, who with his cousin Doreen Ashburnham, aged eleven, beat off an attack by a cougar on Vancouver Island, there has been no younger recipient of the AM. Doreen Ashburnham is the youngest woman ever to have won the decoration.

David Western was playing with three other boys on a frozen lake in Osterley Park when the ice suddenly cracked and threw his friends into the water. He extended his hand to each of them in turn to try to pull them clear, but as he did so the ice broke under him, too, and he was pitched into the freezing lake.

He was at that point separated by ice from the other three, but by breaking the edges in front of him he forced a passage towards them and pulled the first boy he reached to safety. He then waded back through the passage he had created and tried to reach his other two playmates who were still separated from him by further sheet ice. He had taken the precaution of attaching round his waist a thin rope the boys had had with them so that he could be pulled back to the bank if necessary.

But he found that the ground under him was sloping away and he was out of his depth before he could reach his friends and was forced to start swimming. He was only a moderate swimmer and with a line round his waist and the water of the lake only a few degrees above freezing his progress towards the other boys was an agonising one, with his body temperature dropping perilously low at every stroke he swam. Not only that but, while maintaining himself afloat, he had to smash his way through the unbroken ice with his fists, cutting his fingers to shreds.

At last he broke into the area of clear water where he had last seen his comrades. But by that time they were nowhere to be seen since they had themselves been drawn under the broken edge of the ice as they struggled for life in the bitterly cold water. Western now made several duck dives to take him down under the surface in the spot where he had last seen them. But in the dim light of a winter's afternoon he could see nothing.

At last, after a rescue attempt which had lasted an astonishing 25 minutes in near zero temperatures, he was pulled back to shore, utterly exhausted and suffering from hypothermia. In addition he was bleeding profusely from gashes on arms and legs which he had sustained in his battle against the ice.

By this time other help was at hand but it was too late. Western's other two friends were eventually recovered from the lake and taken to hospital where they died. Western's Albert Medal was gazetted on August 13, 1948.

David Charles Western was born in Willesden but his family moved to Canvey Island during the Second World War. His father served in the Royal Artillery, was captured in 1944 and spent the rest of the war as a prisoner.

After the war Western went to school in Acton, west London, where his family moved on his father's return from captivity, and then to Westmark Camp School, Petersfield. At 17 he joined the Royal Navy in which he served for 22 years finally retiring as a petty officer. He settled in Plymouth where he took a job in the naval dockyard. But Alzheimer's was gaining ground and he was forced to retire in 1984. He remained on the reserve until that year and dearly wanted to be called up for service in the Falklands campaign of 1982.

In 1972, like other Albert Medal holders, he was invited to exchange the insignia of the decoration for that of the George Cross. This he did, donating his Albert Medal to the Victory Museum in Portsmouth Dockyard.

His final illness was a cruel blow to a man who had a fiercely independent spirit and remained young at heart.

His marriage, in 1959, to a Maltese girl, Rita, was dissolved. He is survived by his two sons and two daughters.

PERSONAL COLUMN

LEGAL NOTICES

Company Number: 1701607
The Insolvency Act 1986
COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES
EXTRAORDINARY RESOLUTION
of
WEIR HOUSE TROUT FARMS LIMITED
Passed 10th March 1995
At an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the above-named Company, duly convened, and held at The Barn, Mitsenden Abbey Management Centre, Great Mitsenden, Bucks. HP16 0BD on 10th March 1995 the following EXTRAORDINARY RESOLUTION was duly passed, viz:-

RESOLUTION
"THAT it has been proved to the satisfaction of this Meeting that the Company cannot, by reason of its liabilities, continue its business and that it is advisable to wind up the same and, accordingly, that the Company be wound up voluntarily and that Michael Francis Stevenson of Smith & Williamson, 21 Chipper Lane, Salisbury, Wilts be and he is hereby appointed Liquidator for the purposes of such winding up."
Chairman

IN THE MATTER of WEIR HOUSE TROUT FARMS LIMITED
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the creditors of the above-named Company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, to send in their full christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned, Michael Francis Stevenson, of Smith & Williamson, 21 Chipper Lane, Salisbury, Wilts, the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
MICHAEL FRANCIS STEVENSON,
Liquidator

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of appointment of liquidator Voluntary winding up (Members or Creditors)
Pursuant to section 109 of the Insolvency Act 1986
To the Registrar of Companies
Company number 1701607
Name of company
Weir House Trout Farms Ltd
Nature of business
Trout Farming
I give notice that I have been appointed liquidator of the above company on 10 March 1995
The appointment was by the company & the creditors)
Type of liquidation (Creditors)
Name of Liquidator
Michael Francis Stevenson
Office holder number 8164
Address 21 Chipper Lane, Salisbury, Wilts, SP1 1BG
Date 13 March 1995
LIQUIDATOR

NO 00639 of 1995
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF NOVACETA LIMITED
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 8th March 1995 confirming the reduction of the sum of £27,263,000 standing to the credit of the above premium account of the above-named Company was registered by the Registrar of Companies on the 14th day of March 1995.
DATED the 15th day of March 1995
Messrs Edge & Ellison
Rutland House
148 Edmund Street
Birmingham
B3 2JR
Solicitors for the above-named Company

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charities - 1. Mansfield College Spring Hill College Endowment
The Commissioners propose to make Schemes for these charities. A copy of the draft Schemes can be seen at The Registry, Mansfield College Oxford, or obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to Woodfield House, Tavistock, Tavistock, Devon, PL19 8DL quoting reference SRA/JK/209708(1796)-LT. Comments or representations can be made within one month from today.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CAT BALOU lovely to hear from you. I am not clear. Please contact Mick J.

STANLEY James Rossiter-Shepherd deceased. Any person having knowledge of the whereabouts of the Will dated 27th November 1981 (or of any later Will) made by the above named, late of 5 Compton Road, Lindfield, West Sussex, who died on 1st February 1995, should please contact William Sturges & Co., Alliance House, 12 Caxton Street, London SW1H 0QY, Telephone 0171 222 1391 Reference MT.

HELPING HOUSE THE HOMELESS
Donations are urgently needed to enable us to buy more houses and rescue more families in urgent need of support. Help us face the problems of homelessness by naming Church Housing Trust as a beneficiary in your Will. Details from:
CHURCH HOUSING TRUST
Sutherland House
70-78 West Hendon Broadway
London NW9 7BT

Thank you from the RNLI
It is your support through legacies and voluntary contributions that allows us to meet our daily running costs of £100,000 and provide our lifeboatmen with the boats and equipment they need.
For full details on legacies, contact:
The Director, Dept DT, Royal National Lifeboat Institution, West Quay Road, Poole, Dorset BH15 1HZ, or phone (0202) 671133.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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When you place an announcement in The Times we can offer you a delightful hand written calligraphy certificate, suitable for your nursery, baby book or as a gift.
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You helped us in ASSOCIATION now help us in ACTION
London Association for the Blind has changed its name. Now we're working even harder to provide better services to blind or partially sighted people, at our care homes, through employment or cash help for those in need. A donation or covenant now and a legacy later will make it all possible.
action for blind people
Ref.LT, 14-16 Verney Road, London SE16 3DZ. Telephone: 071-732 8771
London Association for the Blind. Registered Charity No.205913

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a signature of either one of the parties concerned or a parent, a daytime and your home telephone number and address
Advertisements for the Court Page must be submitted two working days prior to publication and are accepted subject to confirmation.

DEATH OF SIR HENRY BESSEMER

We regret to announce the death of Sir Henry Bessemer. His inventive faculties covered a very wide area, ranging from gold paint to sugar machinery, and from the design of steamboats to the making of huge telescopes. But it is in connexion with his metallurgical labours that his name will go down to posterity, for he can claim the almost unique honour of having by his own exertions brought about a worldwide revolution in so great an industry as the manufacture of steel.

About the period of the Crimean war Bessemer was among those who interested themselves in the improvement of guns and projectiles but he ultimately came to the conclusion that it was useless to work on the projectiles until the guns themselves had been rendered stronger and better. He therefore erected experimental ironworks in St. Pancras, and devoted much labour and money to investigations which were for a long time without result. For two years his attention had been diverted from his ordinary business pursuits before he hit upon the central principle of the Bessemer process for the conversion of cast iron into cast steel. Formerly the necessary decarbonization of the molten iron was effected by the operation of puddling, which consisted of working the iron about so as to expose every part of it to the air. This method was very slow and laborious and exceedingly trying to the half-naked men who were engaged in it.

Bessemer's improvement was really to bring the air to the iron instead of the iron to the air, and to blow a blast of air through the molten metal until it was sufficiently decarbonized. At length he was successful in making steel which in quality was indistinguishable from that made by the old methods. But when he brought his improved process before the public no one would have anything to do with it, for it was only remembered as a thing which had made a great blaze a few years before and had been a complete failure. Bessemer soon perceived that, if steel was to be made by his process at all, it would have to be made by himself. In conjunction, therefore, with his partner, Robert Longsdon, and the Messrs. Galloway, of Manchester, he bought land at Sheffield and proceeded to build steel works for himself in the very centre of the steel trade.

In due course the works were finished and in working order. For some time only trifling orders were received, but these grew in number and in size, until one day the Sheffield steel-makers awoke to the fact that they were being undersold by some £20 a ton. Forced to the belief that there must after all be something in the new process, they began to apply for licenses. The firm of Henry Bessemer and Co. prospered exceedingly and became one of the most lucrative businesses that the world has ever seen. During the 14 years for which the partnership existed the profits were at the rate of nearly 600 per cent.

ON THIS DAY
March 16 1898

In an obituary of 2,500 words, perhaps the most intriguing passage is that which describes the frustrations that preceded Bessemer's finest achievement. He died in his 86th year.

THE TIMES TODAY

THURSDAY MARCH 16 1995

NEWS

US attempts to mend rift

■ The Clinton Administration has initiated efforts to mend its rift with Britain as it called for an immediate start to the decommissioning of the IRA's weapons arsenal.

Adopting the British Government's line almost word for word, Richard Holbrooke, assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs, said that "non-violent constitutional parties cannot be expected to sit at a table with the political representatives of paramilitary groups who have retained the right to return to violence"..... Page 1

"Feel-good" factor delayed

■ Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, gave warning that the "feel-good" factor could be delayed until the next election. He said prosperity would have to rise for another two years at least before people felt more secure..... Page 1

Footballers 'innocent'

Bruce Grobbelaar, John Fashanu and Hans Segers, the Premier League players arrested by detectives investigating allegations of match fixing, protested their innocence as they were released on police bail ..... Page 1

Nursery school boost

Plans for parents to be given vouchers to pay for nursery education received the support of Jonathan Aitken, the Treasury Chief Secretary..... Page 2

Pensions hero

A 24-year-old sculptor grandson of a First World War hero has become the unlikely toast of the House of Lords ..... Page 3

Battle for Paisley

The once thriving Victorian town of Paisley has become the drug centre of the west of Scotland as gun-wielding gangs battle for territorial rights..... Page 4

Criminal waste

Millions of pounds of taxpayers' money is being wasted by judges, lawyers and police seeking to apply antique, obscure and impenetrable criminal laws, the Government's law reform body said..... Page 5

Vets breaking rules

More than 20 vets have been reported to the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons for flouting rules against the cosmetic docking of dogs' tails..... Page 7

Patients struck off

Dentists have removed more than 800,000 patients from their lists because they are too expensive to treat..... Page 8

Corruption claim

Jeremy Hanley, the Tory party chairman, was at the centre of another political dispute after claiming that Labour councils were generally corrupt..... Page 9

Fish war victory

The European Union declared victory in the fishing war with Canada after the Spanish trawler captured last week was unconditionally released..... Page 10

Rushdie supported

The Council of Europe voted unanimously to insist that European governments reject closer trade or political relations with Iran until it lifts the *fatwa* against Salman Rushdie ..... Page 11

Disobedience plan

Leaders of the 13,000 Jews resident on the occupied Golan Heights were planning a campaign of civil disobedience after the announcement that peace talks are to resume..... Page 12

Killings revelations

Revelations by Adolfo Perez Esquivel, the Argentine Nobel peace prize winner, have added weight to new evidence that the country's military dictatorship killed hundreds of torture and kidnap victims ..... Page 13

Scientists' heads in the clouds

■ The misty top of a Lake District fell is being transformed into an exotic experiment as scientists armed with vacuum suction machines and special bottles come to catch clouds. About £1 million has been given to 37 scientists from countries including Austria, Germany and Slovenia to collect clouds on Great Dunfell, Cumbria ..... Page 3

JULIAN HERBERT



The crowd follows the runners at Cheltenham, attended by Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother yesterday. Pages 36, 37, 40

BUSINESS

Prudential: The Stock Exchange said Michael Newmarch of the Prudential, did not break the rules on director's dealings but that the company did ..... Page 21

Power battle: Northern Electric said it was prepared to entertain a further and possibly hostile takeover offer from Trafalgar House in the £1 billion battle..... Page 21

British Aerospace: BAe is clearing the way for a merger to create Europe's largest missile business by shedding up to 1,350 workers from its subsidiary ..... Page 21

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index fell 3.6 points to 3047.0. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 85.3 to 85.0 after a rise from $1.5877 to $1.5990 but a fall from DM2.2455 to DM2.2247 ..... Page 24

SPORT

Motor racing: The McLaren Formula One team admitted Nigel Mansell may miss the first two grands prix this season while a new chassis is built..... Page 40

Racing: Viking Flagship won the Queen Mother Champion Chase at Cheltenham for the second year running, one of three winners for David Nicholson.. Pages 36, 37, 40

Rugby union: Ian McGeechan, the former Scotland coach, tells how he devised the strategy to defeat England in 1990 and how he would go about achieving a repeat this year ..... Page 38

Football: Tonight, in Auxerre, Arsenal will seek to emulate Chelsea in restoring England's reputation in the Cup Winners' Cup ..... Page 40

ARTS

A little feminism: The new screen version of *Little Women* gives a modern twist to Louisa M. Alcott's classic. Other new films include Gary Oldman as Beethoven in *Immortal Beloved*, and *Priest* — a torrid and topical saga of gay love in the clergy..... Page 29

Best of Giulini: The great Italian maestro Carlo Maria Giulini is this month's CD Direct. Four of his finest recordings are available to *Times* readers at specially reduced prices..... Page 31

White at Wembley: Barry White brought his inimitable brand of soul to Wembley Arena..... Page 31

Chilly drama: Sharman Macdonald's new play *The Winter Guest* is a chilling saga of disintegrating relationships..... Page 30

FEATURES

Up and under: Joanna Pitman meets Rob Andrew, the chartered surveyor who will be kicking for England on Saturday..... Page 14

Clinton's calling: Martin Fletcher on how presidents simply do not fail to get connected to world leaders ..... Page 14

BODY AND MIND

No meat, please: Every week 2,000 Britons change to a vegetarian diet — but is it good for them?. Page 15

Take heart: Patients who complain about "a touch of angina" could have a serious problem..... Page 15

TRAVEL

Paradise regained: Dubrovnik, Shaw's "paradise on earth" aims to win back Britons..... Page 34

Le Shuffle? Large demand for spaces on Le Shuttle could mean big delays ..... Page 34

BOOKS

Sage of Chelsea: Peter Ackroyd on a new biography of Thomas Carlyle, the high priest of hero-worship, by Simon Heffer..... Page 33

American prophet: Christopher Lasch's *Revolt of the Elites*, a posthumous apologia for traditional American values, is reviewed by Colin Welch..... Page 32

New Machiavelli: Sarah Baxter decodes Lord McAlpine's *Letters to a Young Politician* and finds "one long poison pen letter to John Major"..... Page 32

TV LIST

Preview: Wealth could not buy happiness for Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis: *Secret Lives* (Channel 4, 9pm). **Review:** Matthew Bond has rarely seen more powerful television than the Dutch documentary on euthanasia..... Page 39

OPINION

When ties unwind

Unity of purpose is the essence of Anglo-American diplomacy. The Clinton Administration appears to break this tradition..... Page 17

The value of good law

English law, so rich in its own aphorisms, fails to register that "clear law is good law" ..... Page 17

Voting for the dogs

This week all walkies lead to Brum. Woe betide any political intriguer who gets in the way of the dog world bosses ..... Page 17

TIM CONGDON

For the 3.8 million people who bought their first property in 1983-89, the house-price slump since 1990 had been a financial blow below the belt. The withdrawal of mortgage interest relief then came as a fiscal slap in the face. Page 16

JANET DALEY

Hypocrisy has had a good week. But is the English taste for it just part of a larger cultural preference for obliqueness? ..... Page 16

Lord Mulley, former Cabinet Minister and Labour MP; **John Silverlight**, journalist; **David Western**, GC, schoolboy hero; **Lady Brigid Ness**, formerly Princess Friedrich of Prussia ... Page 19

Concern about a legally permissive attitude to euthanasia Page 17

When Britain expressed its displeasure over the Gerry Adams meeting, the White House essentially told the Brits to lump it. Perhaps the end of the Cold War has liberated liberal heads of state into a state of light-headedness

— The Wall Street Journal

The biggest weakness in American policy towards Iran is its inconsistency. What is needed now is to determine whether the United States is exerting all the pressure it is capable of on a rogue regime

—Los Angeles Times

TOP WRITERS IN THE TIMES TOMORROW



Valerie Grove, required reading about those in the news



Bernard Levin: "Just as I was despairing of Canada for ever, I heard a rumbling ..."

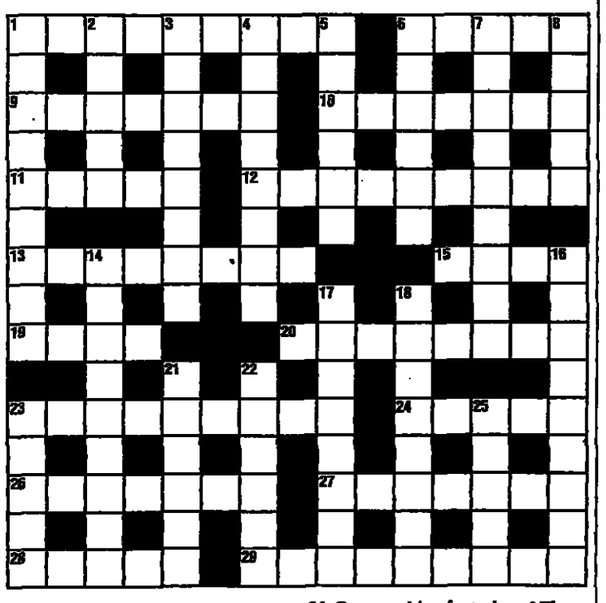


Lynne Truss on the myths surrounding Jackie Onassis



Caitlin Moran parties with Kirsty MacColl, the Lauren Bacall of pop music

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,804



ACROSS

1 Reckless and wicked communist attorney has order reversed (9).
6 Possibly a man's attempt to go without exercise (5).
9 King abandons routine to accept fashionable token (7).
10 It's comparatively large, including the outer suburbs (7).
11 Northern woman with at least one grandchild (5).
12 A random moonquake throws out a scientist's study (9).
13 Supercilious old horseman (8).
15 It is criss-crossed with lights and transmits power for them (4).
19 Teacher may call it a revolution (4).
20 Police informer goes to sleazy bar for a drop (8).
23 A scene not translated into an Asian tongue (9).
24 Encountered books about a clan symbol (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,803

SENNIGHT LAMBDA
C E M Y L O R
HORNPIPE SLOWER
I V U O T O L O
SPEED THREADING
M S E H I N A
UNDERGARMENT
I K C T G A S E
NONRESIDENCE
N I C R E T C
AFTERMATH HOURI
T W H L A O N R
EYELID SPORADIC
L A N P S R L
YARROW TYPEFACE

26 One searching for trainees? There may be a catch in it (7).
27 Harbour with a single firm walkway (7).
28 Material in drawer with no key to it (5).
29 Steward with a great deal of retrospective wisdom (9).

DOWN

1 In which courses are provided on parallel lines (6-3).
2 Upright type managed to secure award (5).
3 Be in lead, perhaps? That's open to contradiction (8).
4 Countryman not finishing filthy drink (8).
5 Envoy, for instance, entering unpunctually (6).
6 Some Celts speak it in sombre tones (6).
7 Musical medley sent to a listener? (3-6).
8 Hat worn for a race in Kentucky? (5).
14 But it may be compulsory for key players (9).
16 Exceptionally attractive thing, to be involved with drama (9).
17 Unsophisticated lacrosse player's joke (8).
18 Face recognized in films (8).
21 It may count a lot to those with hay fever (6).
22 Quest for rector initially installed in main church (6).
23 Supply grub, but not by post (5).
25 Article identifying an obsession (5).

Times Two Crossword, page 40

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code:

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouc,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Stn Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereffds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

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For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code:

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
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M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Tuesday: Highest day temp: London, 14C (57F); lowest day max: Glascarnoch, northern Highland, 5C (41F); highest rainfall: Lerwick, Shetland Isles, 0.31in; highest sunshine: Kinloss, Moray Firth, 6.8hr.

FORECAST

England and Wales will have sunny spells and showers, wintry in the north of England. Rain will spread east across all areas during the afternoon and evening. Strong southwesterly winds will make it feel cool in most parts.

Scotland and Northern Ireland will be cloudy with rain or snow, but eastern Scotland will be dry at first. Sunny spells and wintry showers will follow from the west. Strong to gale force southwesterly winds will make it feel cold in most places.

☐ **London, Central S, Central N, SE, E England, E Anglia, E, W Midlands:** sunny spells and showers. Rain this evening. Wind fresh to strong southwesterly. Max 9C (48F).

☐ **Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales, N Wales:** sunny spells and showers, becoming cloudy for a time with rain. Wind strong southwesterly. Max 8C (46F).

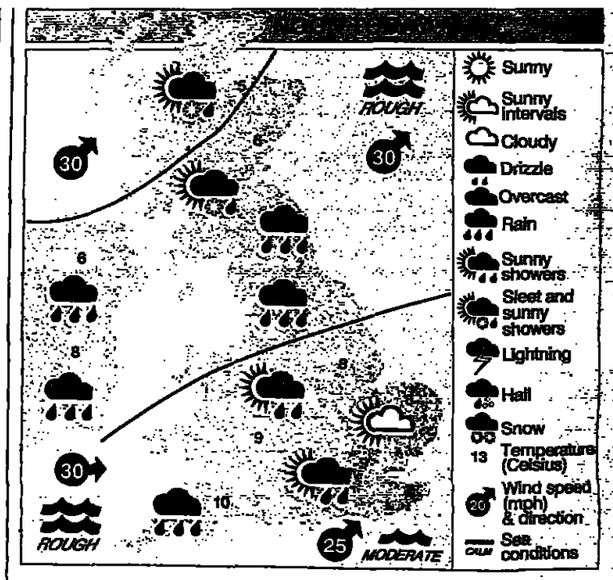
☐ **NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, NE England:** wintry showers, becoming prolonged. Sunny spells and showers later, perhaps thundery. Wind strong southwesterly, touching gale at times. Max 7C (45F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth:** dry at first. Sleet or snow, then sunny spells and showers. Wind strong to gale force southwesterly. Max 6C (43F).

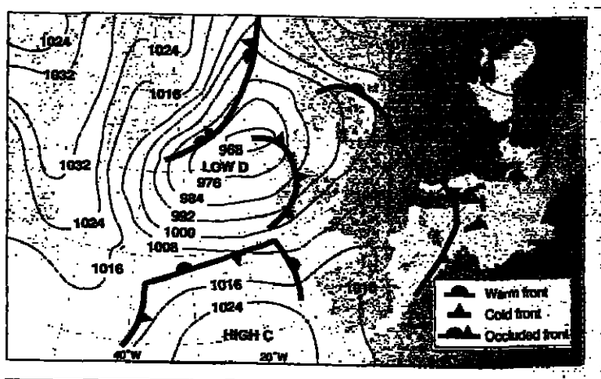
☐ **SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll, NW Scotland, N Ireland:** sleet or snow. Heavy wintry showers later. Wind strong to gale force southwesterly. Max 6C (43F).

☐ **NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** showers, some heavy, becoming prolonged for a time. Wind moderate southwesterly, becoming strong. Max 5C (41F).

☐ **Outlook:** remaining unsettled, with showers in the north, rain at times in the south.



Changes to the chart below from noon: Low D will drift east and fill. Low Q will move SE and continue to fill. High C will be slow-moving with little change to central pressure



AROUND BRITAIN

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F	
Aberdeen	5.6	0.06	10	50	b	London	6.0	-	14	57	s
Anglesey	1.0	0.06	6	48	d	Lowestoft	-	-	6	43	c
Aspatria	1.8	0.10	7	45	r	Manchester	-	0.02	7	45	r
Aviemore	4.4	0.09	7	45	sh	Margate	2.6	-	9	48	b
Belfast	2.4	0.06	8	46	sh	Minehead	0.8	0.03	12	54	r
Birmingham	1.9	0.04	10	50	r	Morecambe	-	0.11	7	45	r
Bognor R	4.7	-	11	52	b	Newcastle	1.0	-	9	48	c
Bournem'th	2.6	-	12	54	b	Newquay	0.8	0.01	9	48	d
Bristol	0.1	0.06	10	50	r	Norwich	x	-	8	46	sh
Buxton	1.7	-	7	45	c	Nottingham	x	-	-	-	-
Cardiff	0.4	0.02	9	48	d	Oxford	2.6	-	11	52	c
Clacton	1.2	-	7	45	c	Penzance	1.2	-	11	52	c
Colwyn Bay	0.2	0.07	10	50	r	Plymouth	0.2	0.01	10	50	c
Cromer	-	0.02	8	46	fg	Poole	2.4	-	13	55	b
Doncaster	0.1	-	10	50	c	Prestatyn	x	0.02	9	48	d
Eastbourne	2.9	-	8	46	s	Ross-o-wye	1.9	-	11	52	d
Edinburgh	2.7	0.02	9	48	sh	Ryde	x	-	-	-	-
Eskdalemuir	1.8	0.13	7	45	h	Salcombe	3.9	-	11	52	s
Exmouth	2.4	0.02	11	52	d	Sandown	3.2	-	11	52	s
Falmouth	x	0.02	11	52	d	Saunton Snd	1.0	0.01	9	48	d
Fishguard	-	0.04	8	46	d	Scarboro'	0.8	0.02	8	46	d
Folkestone	0.7	-	7	45	fg	Scilly Isles	0.2	0.01	10	50	c
Glasgow	2.7	0.09	9	48	sh	Shanklin	3.8	-	11	52	s
Guernsey	3.8	-	12	54	s	Shrewsbury	1.0	0.04	11	52	r
Hastings	2.5	-	8	46	fg	Skegness	-	0.02	9	48	d
Hayling I.	4.4	-	10	50	s	Southend	6.7	-	10	50	c
Herne Bay	x	-	-	-	-	Southport	0.9	0.03	8	46	d
Hove	3.7	0.01	8	46	fg	Southsea	2.4	-	10	50	c
Hunstanton	1.7	0.07	9	48	r	Stornoway	3.9	0.15	7	45	sh
Ilfracombe	x	-	-	-	-	Swanage	3.9	-	13	55	b
Isle of Man	2.6	0.05	8	46	b	Teignmouth	2.4	-	12	54	c
Jersey	3.5	-	12	54	b	Tenby	0.4	-	9	48	c
Kinloss	6.8	0.19	9	48	sh	Tiree	4.7	0.22	8	46	h
Leeds	-	-	9	48	c	Torquay	2.6	0.03	12	54	b
Lerwick	5.1	0.31	7	45	sh	Tynemouth	0.8	-	10	50	c
Lauchars	4.2	-	9	48	b	Ventnor	5.8	-	11	52	s
Littlehmptn	4.2	-	9	48	fg	Weymouth	4.8	-	10	50	b
Liverpool	0.2	0.04	8	46	d						

These are Tuesday's figures

ABROAD

Ajaccio	14	57	s	C'phagn	0	32	c	Majorca	16	61	s
Akrotiri	19	66	s	Corfu	8	46	r	Malaga	16	61	s
Alex'dria	21	70	s	Dublin	5	41	f	Malta	14	57	f
Algiers	20	68	s	Dubrovnik	7	45	f	Melb'rne	15	59	c
Amst'dm	7	45	f	Faro	19	66	s	Mexico C	20	68	s
Athens	14	57	f	Florence	9	48	c	Miami	25	77	f
Bahrain	20	68	s	Frankfurt	3	37	c	Milan	9	48	c
Bangkok	33	91	s	Funchal	18	64	f	Montreal	8	46	s
Barbados	29	84	f	Geneva	7	45	f	Moscow	-2	28	s
Barcelona	13	55	s	Gibraltar	16	61	s	Munich	6	43	f
Beirut	22	72	s	Helsinki	0	32	sn	Nairobi	26	79	t
Belgrade	1	34	f	Hong K	21	70	f	Naples	12	54	f
Berlin	2	36	c	Innsbruck	10	50	f	N Delhi	22	72	f
Bermuda	16	64	s	Istanbul	7	45	f	N York	13	56	s
Biarritz	10	50	r	Jeddah	32	90	s	Nice	13	55	f
Borde'x	9	48	c	Jo'burg	23	73	f	Oslo	0	32	sn
Brussels	5	41	r	Karachi	29	84	f	Paris	9	48	c
Budapst	0	32	sn	L Palmas	17	63	c	Peking	7	45	c
B Aires	25	77	f	La Toquet	8	46	f	Perth	37	99	s
Cairo	28	79	s	Lisbon	15	59	s	Prague	0	32	sn
Cape Tn	31	88	s	Locarno	7	45	c	Reykjavik	-4	25	s
Chicago	23	73	s	L Angels	21	70	s	Rhodes	18	61	f
Ch'church	21	70	-	Luxor	32	90	s	Rio de J	25	77	f
Cologne	6	43	f	Madrid	16	61	s	Riyadh	26	79	t
								Rome	13	55	s
								Salzburg	6	43	f
								S F'risco	16	61	f
								Santiago	19	66	s
								S Paulo	22	72	c
								Seoul	16	61	s
								Sing'por	32	90	f
								St'kholm	-1	30	sn
								Strasb'rg	7	45	r
								Sydney	21	70	c
								Tangier	21	70	s
								Tel Aviv	22	72	f
								Tenerife	22	72	f
								Tokyo	12	54	c
								Toronto	16	64	s
								Tunis	15	59	c
								Valencia	19	66	s
								Vanc'ver	10	50	c
								Venice	7	45	s
								Vienna	3	37	s
								Warsaw	1	34	f
								Wash'ton	23	73	s
								Wel'ngton	15	59	c
								Zurich	7	45	f

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	1:01	6.63	1:27	6.88	Leith	1:55	5.26	2:15	5.45
Aberdeen	0.53	4.10	1.00	4.27	Liverpool	10:46	9.31	11:06	9.53
Avonmouth	6:39	12.91	7:02	13.08	Lowestoft	9:19	2.39	9:09	2.50
Belfast	10:27	3.39	10.51	3.20	Margate	11:43	4.62	11:50	4.74
Cardiff	6:26	11.39	6:51	11.50	Milford Haven	5:36	6.81	5:53	6.86
Devonport	5:12	5.35	5:38	5.27	Newquay	4:28	6.58	4:47	6.68
Dover	10:25	6.36	10:45	6.57	Oban	5:16	3.66	5:42	3.84
Dublin	11:06	3.98	11:20	3.90	Penzance	4:09	5.37	4:29	5.36
Falmouth	4:24	5.01	4:45	4.99	Portland	8:14	2.01	8:44	1.99
Glasgow	0:17	4.23	0:17	4.60	Portsmouth	10:47	4.52	11:12	4.70
Harwich	11:26	3.83	11:42	3.88	Shoreham	10:35	6.08	10:59	6.26
Holyhead	9:44	5.48	10:08	5.44	Southampton	10:15	4.52	10:37	4.61
Hull	5:44	7.07	5:56	7.48	Swansea	5:48	9.28	6:10	9.38
Ilfracombe	5:25	8.99	5:48	9.18	Tees	3:01	5.10	3:14	5.27
King's Lynn	5:40	6.24	5:55	6.53	W'ton-on-Nze	11:13	4.14	11:28	4.39

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 6.14 am
Sun sets: 6.06 pm
Moon sets 5.35 pm
Moon rises 5.50 pm

London 6.08 pm to 6.12 am
Bristol 6.16 pm to 6.21 am
Edinburgh 6.17 pm to 6.24 am
Manchester 6.14 pm to 6.20 am
Penzance 6.28 pm to 6.33 am

Full moon tomorrow

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هكذا من الاصل



ANATOLE KALETSKY 25

The economy prepares for a soft landing



BOOKS 32, 33

Middle America: a betrayal by its elites



SPORT 35-40

Mansell forces McLaren back to drawing board

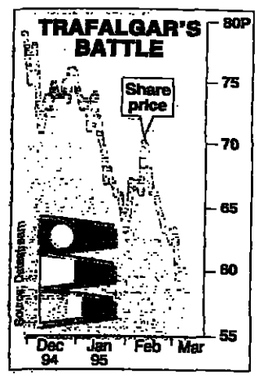
GEOFF BROWN FALLS FOR LITTLE WOMEN
Cinema, page 29

THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook — THURSDAY MARCH 16 1995 — RK

Northern directors willing to entertain new bid

Clash over timing of fresh Trafalgar offer



THE saga of the £1 billion assault on Northern Electric by Trafalgar House, the shipping to construction conglomerate, took yet another turn yesterday when Northern said that it was prepared to entertain a further takeover offer.

The earlier Trafalgar bid, worth £1.2 billion, lapsed on Friday, a victim of the announcement by Professor Stephen Littlechild, the electricity regulator, last week that he was considering reviewing the framework governing prices in the industry. His announcement led to huge falls in share prices in the sector.

Trafalgar's bid, of £11 cash lapsed, and the group immediately tried to rebid at 950p. That lower offer was rebuffed by Northern, and, under City takeover rules, therefore failed.

However, Northern, after indications that a majority of its shareholders wanted the chance to consider Trafalgar's offer, said yesterday that directors had told the Takeover Panel, the City watchdog on bids, that it would agree to a new offer "after the present uncertainty has been removed by the resolution of the regulatory position currently under review".

In an about-turn, Northern also said that such an offer could go ahead whether or not its board was prepared to recommend acceptance. Under the Byzantine rules governing City takeovers, such an offer, at a lower price, would not normally be allowed without the full support of a target company's directors.

Predictably, both parties were immediately at loggerheads over the implications of the latest twist in the tale. Northern was insisting that the regulator, if he decides on a full industry review, would have to reach agreement with the industry about a new regulatory framework before the uncertainty had lifted sufficiently for a new bid to be made, a process that would take months to complete.

Northern, which provides electricity to north-east England and is the first of the regulated utilities to attract a takeover bid, has said that "substantial uncertainty" over what the regulatory position would eventually be makes it impossible for the board to decide on the virtues of any bid.

However, Trafalgar, which wants Northern both for its strong cash flow and because the deal offers tax advantages, said that a fresh offer could come as soon as next week.

Professor Littlechild has said that he will decide a week tomorrow whether to conduct a review. This, says Trafalgar, would sufficiently reduce uncertainties surrounding the industry to allow it to return.

Northern's shares, which had risen sharply on Tuesday on hopes of a new bid, added another 32p to 821p yesterday on the news.

One of the few things that the two sides can agree on is that the present situation amounts to "exceptional circumstances". City lawyers say that the saga has run so far ahead of precedents that its outcome is probably impossible to guess.

Pennington, page 23

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET PRICES

FT-SE 100	3047.0	(-3.6)
Yield	4.43%	
FT-SE A All share	1496.24	(+0.22)
Nikkei	18666.83	(+421.01)
New York:		
Dow Jones	4039.41	(-9.34)*
S&P Composite	491.75	(-1.14)*

UK GILTS

Federal Funds	6¼%*	(6¼%)
Long Bond	102²⁸/₃₂*	(103⁴/₃₂)
Yield	7.39%*	(7.36%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	6⁵⁸/₃₂%	(6⁵⁸/₃₂%)
Liffe long gilt future (Mar)	102¹⁄₃₂	(102¹⁵/₃₂)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6015*	(1.5845)
London:		
$	1.6035	(1.5865)
DM	2.2201	(2.2416)
FFr	7.8880	(7.9460)
SFr	1.8398	(1.8662)
Yen	143.13	(144.21)
£ Index	85.0	(85.3)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.3866*	(1.4157)
FFr	4.9410*	(5.0145)
SFr	1.1485*	(1.1760)
Yen	89.38*	(90.80)
$ Index	90.8	(91.7)

Tokyo close Yen 90.80

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (May)	$16.55	($16.45)

GOLD

London close	$386.85	($385.05)

* denotes midday trading price

The Pru guilty of SE rule breach

BY ROBERT MILLER

THE Prudential, Britain's largest insurer with assets of £75 billion, was yesterday found guilty of breaching Stock Exchange rules.

But Mick Newmarch, its former chief executive who resigned after the exchange launched an investigation into a controversial share option deal, was cleared of trading while in possession of price-sensitive information.

Mr Newmarch left his post in January, saying his relationship with regulators had broken down and that the exchange was studying his dealings in the company's shares.

The share deal involved Mr Newmarch exercising an option in Prudential shares on October 25, hours before it expired and hours before a critical report into personal pensions mis-selling was published by the Securities and Investments Board (SIB), the chief City regulator. Mr Newmarch sold 208,750 shares for a profit of £203,000.

Just days before the SIB published its report, Mr Newmarch and Sir Brian Corby, chairman of the Prudential who approved his chief executive's share deal, met Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, and Anthony Nelson, the Economic Secretary to the Treasury.

At the meeting, the SIB report and its damning implications for the pensions industry were discussed in some detail. It is this information that was regarded as being potentially share-price sensitive and which led to the exchange's five-month inquiry.

The Treasury was subsequently asked by the exchange to provide any evidence that could shed light on Mr Newmarch's knowledge of the SIB report at the time he exercised his share option. Treasury officials gave evidence and attended a final meeting with the exchange's quotation committee on Monday. They offered written minutes of the Treasury meeting with Prudential officials but the exchange rejected this offer.

The exchange said yesterday that Mr Newmarch had not breached its model code which says "a director must not deal in any securities of the listed company at any time when he is in possession of unpublished price-sensitive information to those securities, or otherwise where clearance to deal is not given." In this case, Sir Brian gave his approval.

But the exchange inquiry did find that the Prudential was guilty of breaching its listing rule 16.18. This says that a company must take all "proper and reasonable steps to secure compliance" with the directors' dealing code.

The exchange added: "The committee was critical of the way in which Mr Newmarch and the Prudential approached their consideration of the dealings and the information available. It has made these concerns known to Mr Newmarch and the company."

Sir Brian said the exchange statement "still leaves something in the air. Mr Newmarch was being accused of dealing while in possession of price sensitive information and I was accused of permitting the deal to go ahead in those circumstances. The Stock Exchange seems to be saying that we got the correct answer but didn't go about it in the right way."

Alistair Darling, Labour's City affairs spokesman, has written to Michael Lawrence, Chief Executive of the Stock Exchange, calling for a full explanation of how the Pru breached the rules and Mr Newmarch did not. He accused the exchange of issuing half a statement and said this would fuel further speculation as to what went wrong.

In the next few weeks, Lautro, the outgoing regulator for life companies, is to discuss an informal investigation it carried out last year into the pension selling practices of Prudential sales staff.

Mick Newmarch, as chief executive of the mighty Prudential, was the biggest and prickliest thorn in the side of the City's regulatory establishment. Here was a man who could spot a naked emperor at 500 paces and would not keep it to himself.
Pennington, page 23

DENZIL McGEELANCE



Well-heeled: Strong growth in British retailing helped John Church, chairman of Church & Co, the quality shoe company, announce a 30 per cent rise in underlying profits. But a £568,000 property writedown cut pre-tax growth with profits up 12 per cent at £3.6 million. A final 10.75p (10p) dividend makes a total payout of 13.75p (13p).

Slack consumer spending eases fears of rate rises

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE argument for another interest rate rise weakened yesterday as a clutch of economic figures showed a combination of slack consumer demand and a slight easing in already low wage pressures.

On the surface, the performance of retail sales in February looked strong with volumes bouncing by 1.2 per cent. However, this was offset by a revision to January's fall in sales — originally put at 0.9 per cent — to 1.2 per cent, according to the Central Statistical Office.

Over the past three months, sales have risen only a marginal 0.1 per cent, compared with the previous three, and volumes have shown virtually no growth over the past eight months. Richard Jeffrey, chief economist of the Charterhouse Group, said: "Consumer spending has now stagnated and more tax increases are yet to come. There is no argument for further interest rate rises here."

Another argument against tighter money came from average earnings figures for January. Growth edged lower to 3.5 per cent overall, from 3.75 per cent over the past several months. The slight fall in overall earnings was not contained in January's figures, but was due to a downward revision to services earnings in December, because City bonuses were much lower than in 1994.

In spite of this, there was relief in the City and in the Treasury that earnings growth is either slightly lower or stable. The Treasury noted that there had been no take-off in wages in spite of strong economic growth last year and 13 months of falling unemployment. Seasonally adjusted unemployment fell 27,400 in February, the second month running when there was a relatively small decline.

James May, director-general of the British Retail Consortium, said after the retail sales figures that consumer confidence remains at a low level because people are concerned about further rate rises.

Barclays Bank reports today that its mortgage lending remained sluggish in February, with a 4 per cent drop in lending, compared with January, and a 7 per cent decline since February last year.

Fewer jobless, page 22
Economic View, page 25

Paper cuts

Reed Elsevier, the Anglo-Dutch publisher, expects to be able to absorb most of the forecast rises in paper prices by cost-cutting. It will seek opportunities to use smaller paper, to reduce wastage, to use lower-grade paper where possible and to improve the efficiency of its printing.
Page 22, Tempus 24

Bearing up

George Mallinckrodt, the chairman of Schroders, yesterday called for closer liaison between the world's stock exchanges and derivatives markets in the wake of Barings. Page 23

Peter Baring sidelined

BY ROBERT MILLER

PETER BARING, the chairman of Barings at the time the 233-year-old bank collapsed, has been sidelined by International Nederlanden Groep (ING), the new Dutch owners.

Mr Baring has not been given any key exective role in spite of his extensive knowledge of how the Barings group of companies works. His only role is that of adviser on matters affecting the Barings business collectively and to provide liaison between the businesses. Mr Baring offered his resignation at the time of the ING takeover, but this was rejected by Aad Jacobs, the chairman of ING. Last week Mr Jacobs said that Mr Baring would remain until after the Bank of England's inquiry into the Barings collapse was completed. He added: "If it finds he has done something wrong we will take appropriate action, but I hope it does not."

ING's new structure puts its own senior personnel firmly in the driving seat of Barings in a series of management committees and under the overall direction of Hessel Lindenbergh, the new Barings chairman. An ING spokesman said last night: "This is a temporary structure under the Bank of England report is completed. We now have key ING managers firmly in charge of the key areas of risk management, control and compliance. Changes could be made after the Bank's report."

US enthralled, page 22

BAe clears way to set up missile venture

BY ROSS TIEMAN
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH AEROSPACE is clearing the way for a merger to create Europe's largest missile business by shedding up to 1,350 workers from Dynamics, its subsidiary.

The job cuts will position BAe to form a 50/50 venture to design, develop and build missiles with Lagardère Groupe, of France.

Agreement on merger terms for the new company, Matra BAe Dynamics, could be reached within a fortnight. With combined sales of about £900 million, and 6,100 workers at six main sites in Britain and France, Matra is expected to form the nucleus of a new European missile group, with other partners, possibly including GEC, being invited to join later.

By funding rationalisation of the Dynamics business from provisions made in its accounts for the year to December 31, BAe is effectively streamlining it for the merger. However, because of the greater workload and order book at Matra, BAe is expected to have to make a cash payment of up to £100 million to Matra to secure an equal share of the joint company. Matra has 3,000 workers at three sites near Paris, and annual sales of some £500 million.

The measures announced yesterday are designed to bring capacity at BAe Dynamics in line with demand. Some 675 people will be shed from the workforce of 3,830 this year. A similar number will go in 1996, unless additional orders for existing products, or work on key new programmes, are won.

The latest cutbacks are caused by the imminent completion of work on a ten-year, £1.9 billion contract to supply the Rapier 2000 air-defence missile system, and the end of development work on the new advanced short-range, air-to-air missile (ASRAAM).

☐ Shareholders of Lockheed, meeting in Chicago, yesterday approved plans to merge with Martin Marietta, creating Lockheed Martin, the world's biggest defence company.

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CORBY Nobody does it Better

Chairman of Vimto to retire

JN Nichols (Vimto), the soft drinks group, announced the retirement of Geoffrey Adkin, its chairman, as it unveiled a 5 per cent increase in profits last year. He will be succeeded by Arthur Booth, a non-executive director.

Pre-tax profits rose to £9.1 million from £8.6 million in the year to December 31, despite a 14 per cent jump in turnover to £56.3 million. The final dividend is lifted to 3.9p (3.6p) bringing the total to 6.15p (5.76p).

Joint venture

Gestetner Holdings and Inchcape are to merge their Asia Pacific office automation businesses in a 50/50 joint venture, with annual sales of £200 million and more than 3,000 staff in 21 business units in nine countries. The venture, Inchcape NRG, is expected to be operational by June 1.

CPG in red

Exceptional charges of £4.03 million pushed Computer People Group into the red at the full-year stage. CPG made a pre-tax loss of £391,000 in the year to December 31 (£1.1 million). The final dividend is raised to 2p (1.5p), making a 3p total (1.5p).

Baynes boost

Acquisitions and organic growth helped to boost pre-tax profit at Charles Baynes, the engineering and distribution group, by 54.9 per cent to £12.7 million in the year to December 31. The final dividend is 1.3p (1.075p), lifting the total to 2p (1.65p).

News chief

August Fischer has resigned as chief executive of News International, owner of *The Times*. He is replaced by William O'Neill. Rupert Murdoch, chairman of The News Corporation, the parent company, said: "We are all very grateful for the tremendous contribution Gus Fischer has made to the progress of our newspapers and I particularly appreciate his dedication to the whole company." Mr Fischer, who joined News International in 1989, was also chief operating officer of News Corp. Mr O'Neill has worked for News Corp for 36 years, having joined as a shop floor apprentice compositor on the Sydney Daily Mirror. He has held a number of senior executive positions in Australia, America and Britain.

Nicholas W. Leeson enthrals Big Apple

FROM JON ASHWORTH IN NEW YORK

NEITHER the floods in California nor the tribulations of OJ Simpson have been able to stifle Wall Street's fascination with the Barings affair. Bankers who had not even heard of Barings three weeks ago are hungry for the latest on Nicholas W. Leeson, but few anticipate lasting damage to the City of London's reputation.

The trader from Watford takes his place alongside Joseph Jett and Michael Milken in the local hall of fame. Not even rumours of blood-letting at PaineWebber nor the woes of Bankers Trust have been able to knock Mr Leeson from his pedestal. The Big Apple has taken the affair to heart. There is a fascination with the idea that one man can topple a bank, however misplaced the notion may turn out to be.

"It had a very big impact here, front-page stuff," says Arju Mathrani, chief financial officer at Chase Manhattan Bank. "How one man could bring down an institution — an old, established, historic house. It has also swung the spotlight on to derivitives."

David Reid, resident partner at Allen & Overy, says the collapse has brought several issues into focus. "It was definitely a big issue here, not simply because of the exposure by American banks to Barings. It underlies the increasing problems facing firms given the increased reliance on proprietory trading." Mr Reid says the debacle has raised questions locally about the effectiveness of self-policing, in which regulators trust banks to set up effective risk control systems.

Small wonder that Wall Street is edgy. Chemical Bank is facing a loss of $70 million because of a currency trader's exposure to the Mexican peso. Mr Jett's forward sales of government bonds at Kidder, Peabody remain a hearty topic of conversation. PaineWebber, which bought Kidder last year, is rumoured to be preparing to dismiss up to 500 traders. Shares in Bankers Trust have plunged on fears about its derivitive business and exposures in Latin America.

Americans see the Barings collapse as an isolated incident that will have little impact long term on the City's standing as a financial hub. Nevertheless, there was predictable fire for the UK delegation in town to brief bankers on the City Research Project into London's competitive standing. Stanislas Yassukovich, the team leader, said regulation would never be able to keep pace completely with rapid changes in the markets. He arrives in Tokyo today on the second leg of his global roadshow.

Portillo says jobless total is falling by 1,000 a day

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE Government claimed yesterday that unemployment is falling by 1,000 a day as it announced a further drop in the number of people out of work and claiming benefit.

New figures also suggested a continuing rise in employment, according to ministers — although the job growth accompanied an extensive revision to the employment statistics as Whitehall officials tried to bring two official job measures into line.

Announcing a 27,400 drop in unemployment for February, Michael Portillo, the Employment Secretary, said that with monthly unemployment falls averaging 30,000, the number of people out of work was declining at the rate of 1,000 a day.

But Labour and trade union leaders said that the latest fall in unemployment, though welcome, suggested that any recovery in the labour market was slowing down.

Harriet Harman, Shadow Employment Secretary, accused Mr Portillo of complacency about employment, claiming that the jobs that had disappeared in the recession were not being replaced. John Monks, TUC General Secretary, said the below-average fall in the unemployment claimant count was disappointing.

Seasonally adjusted unemployment fell to 2.36 million in February, the 13th consecutive monthly drop. Unemployment is at its lowest level since June 1991, and the unemployment rate of 8.4 per cent is the lowest since July of the same year.

While Whitehall officials believe the fall is likely to continue at a rate of about 30,000 per month, February's was lower than the average changes over the last three, six and 12 months. Unadjusted unemployment fell 44,513 to 2,458,840.

Adjusted unemployment is down by 388,200 since last year, but new employment figures showed an annual growth in jobs of 173,000 in the same period.

The workforce in employment rose 115,000 in the three months to the end of December to 25.6 million, while manufacturing employment rose 8,000 in January to 4.275 million.

Whitehall officials said the workforce in employment series had been substantially revised to take greater account of employment figures in the separate Labour Force Survey. Government statisticians have been trying to bring the two measures more closely into line after the LFS showed a growth in jobs when the workforce series had been showing a fall.

While increases in average earnings eased back a quarter of a point to 3.5 per cent, unit wage costs rose 0.6 per cent to their highest level since May last year. At the same time, productivity increases showed clear signs of slowing, with a 4.6 per cent rise, the lowest since January last year.

Jobs conundrum, page 25



No pipedream: Sir George Russell reported a turnround from £2 million losses last year

Marley surges to £58.7m

BY SARAH BAGNALL

MARLEY, the building products group, has lifted the final dividend to 2.6p a share from 2.1p, the first rise in seven years, after returning to a profit of £58.7 million in 1994 from losses of £2 million previously.

Sir George Russell, chairman, said the year had been one of "considerable progress". Stripping out a £4.5 million profit on a land sale and a £6.5 million profit on the disposal of the French clay roof tile business, profits rose 61 per cent to £47.8 million.

The final dividend, due June 5, makes a total of 4.7p (4.2p). EPS were 11.4p, up from 6.6p.

Tempus, page 24

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

English China Clays advances by 22%

RECOVERY in the paper industry is improving the fortunes of English China Clays, the specialty minerals and chemicals group. The company, which generates two thirds of its business from sales of specialty minerals to paper manufacturers, increased operating profits before discontinued businesses by 22 per cent to £109.6 million in the year to December 31 as volumes and prices increased in Europe.

ECC's financial results last year were complicated by the acquisition of EZE Products, the specialty chemicals business and the demerger of CAMAS, the construction materials group. EZE was acquired at the end of last year for $45 million, and ECC has charged £4.7 million to profits for rationalising and integrating EZE and Calgon, acquired in 1993. Andrew Teare, chief executive predicts that ECC will benefit from the rising demand for paper; a price increase of 3 per cent has been pushed through, and ECC has reduced costs with a reduction in the headcount of 500 last year. The dividend of 16.25p, forecast on the demerger of CAMAS is covered by maintained earnings of 20p. Tempus, page 24

Allied-Domecq warning

ALLIED-DOMECQ, the spirits and pub group, has warned shareholders that although Christmas trading was up with expectations, the heavy disposal programme over recent months will mean some short-term dilution in earnings before the money raised can be reinvested in core businesses. Allied said yesterday, in a regular trading update, that the second interim dividend to be announced this spring, following a change in the company's year-end, would be paid as a foreign income dividend. Tempus, page 24

Saatchi & Saatchi sued

BILL MUIRHEAD, former head of Saatchi & Saatchi's US operations and one of the so-called "three amigos" who quit in January in the wake of Maurice Saatchi's abrupt departure, is suing his former employer for libel. His writ, served on the company on the eve of today's extraordinary meeting of Saatchi shareholders, is the latest in a complex web of litigation between the advertising combine and departed executives. Saatchi itself is already suing Mr Muirhead in the US.

Good start for Heywood

HEYWOOD WILLIAMS, the international building products and automotive components group, said demand in America, now its principal market, had started strongly in the current year after reaching record levels in 1994. The company reported profits of £33.1 million for the year, compared with £35.2 million in 1993 when there was an exceptional surplus of £15 million on disposals. Operating profits rose to £33.1 million from £19.7 million. There is a final dividend of 8.8p a share, making 13.8p (13p). Earnings were 20.1p a share (30.6p).

French bank inquiry

A JUDICIAL inquiry has begun into alleged wrongdoing at state-owned bank Credit Lyonnais, Edmond Alphandéry, the French Economics Minister, said. The controversial rescue plan for the bank is due to be published tomorrow . "There has been embezzlement ... this has to be pursued by legal means. The public prosecutor has already opened a number of inquiries relating to Credit Lyonnais," he said. On Tuesday M Alphandéry said there was a hole in the bank's accounts of about Fr50 billion.

Slump at Swiss Bank

SWISS BANK CORPORATION, the blue-chip Basle institution that engaged in controversial deals in stock options and stake-building to support Trafalgar's hostile bid for Northern Electric, saw group net profit slump 41 per cent to 811 million Swiss francs (£435 million) last year, mainly reflecting the sharp decline in trading income. The bank forecast an improved profit this year and left its dividend unchanged. Like its main Swiss rivals, it was hit by falling bond prices after interest rates started to rise early last year.

Holliday confident

HOLLIDAY Chemical Holdings is confident of further progress in the current year after organic and acquisition growth helped the industrial dye and specialist chemicals group to a 47 per cent advance in full-year profits. Pre-tax profits rose to £19.3 million in the year to December 31 (£13.1 million). Turnover, boosted by acquisition, expanded by 26 per cent to £132.9 million. The final dividend, payable on May 8, is raised to 3p (2.4p), lifting the total dividend for the year by 25 per cent to 5p (4p), from earnings ahead 23 per cent to 14p (11.4p) a share.

Qantas leaps to £95m

QANTAS, the Australian national airline in which British Airways has a 25 per cent stake, prepared for privatisation later this year with a 47 per cent surge in half-year pre-tax profits to a record A$202.9 million (£95.3 million). Much of the improvement came from its domestic operation, where passenger revenue rose nearly 24 per cent in the six months to December 1994. International passenger revenue rose 7.4 per cent and the route between London and Sydney moved into profit for the first time in ten years.

Wytch boosts Premier

RECORD oil production from Wytch Farm helped to raise pre-tax profits from £13.3 million to £14.1 million at Premier Consolidated Oilfields in spite of a 9 per cent drop in average oil prices in 1994. Premier, which last month completed the takeover of Pict Petroleum, increased production in 1994 by 17 per cent to 14,183 barrels of oil equivalent per day, mainly due to a 28 per cent boost from Wytch Farm. The company predicts that production will grow a further 75 per cent this year and is forecasting a dividend for calendar 1995.

Last-minute WTO plea

DEADLOCK between America and the European Union over who is to become the first full-time head of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) prompted trade envoys to make a last-minute request yesterday to Peter Sutherland, the interim Director-General to stay on for six weeks. Mr Sutherland, scheduled to step down yesterday after acting as caretaker head of the WTO since it came into being in January, warned the Clinton Administration last week failure to fill the post threatened to undermine its credibility.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.23	2.06
Austria Sch	16.80	15.30
Belgium Fr	48.30	45.00
Canada $	2.346	2.186
Cyprus Cyp£	0.755	0.700
Denmark Kr	9.60	8.80
Finland Mkk	7.52	6.87
France Fr	8.43	7.75
Germany Dm	2.40	2.19
Greece Dr	381.00	356.00
Hong Kong $	12.91	11.81
Ireland Pt	1.06	0.96
Israel	5.2222	4.4722
Italy Lira	2775.00	2620.00
Japan Yen	158.00	142.00
Malta	0.602	0.547
Netherlds Gld	2.670	2.440
Norway Kr	10.58	9.78
Portugal Esc	247.50	228.00
S Africa Rd	nil.	5.34
Spain Pta	211.00	195.00
Sweden Kr	12.08	11.28
Switzerland Fr	2.00	1.82
Turkey Lira	refer	64140.0
USA $	1.684	1.554

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank plc. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

ASB seeks changes to tax report rules

BY ROBERT BRUCE

PROPOSALS on the treatment of deferred tax published today could mean a huge fall in the reported earnings of UK companies. Analysts estimate earnings per share at British Airways, for example, could fall by 36 per cent, while utilities would also be badly hit, with British Gas earnings down about 20 per cent.

Accounting for Tax, a discussion document issued by the Accounting Standards Board (ASB), proposes that companies move to the "full-provision method" of accounting for tax in their annual reports and accounts.

This method is favoured by the ASB because it reduces subjectivity and it fits in with international practice. Terry Smith, an analyst at Collins Stewart, said: "Some companies which have been rated on a subnormal tax rate like utilities companies and British Airways will be derated."

Amit Thakar, of Hoare Govett, said: "The new proposals will give a very good picture of a company's health." He said that they "would sound the death knell for the earnings multiple" and he also praised the proposals for providing fuller disclosure of the tax figures.

Sir David Tweedie, ASB chairman, said that the discussion paper "provides a solid foundation for a considered and informed debate".

Pennington, page 23
Accountancy, page 28

Strong mark halts talk of rate cut

THE mark resumed its upwards march yesterday with dealers no longer talking about a cut in German rates at the Bundesbank's meeting today, and the dollar's brief attempt to rally was rudely put to an end as more Mexican worries surfaced (Janet Bush writes).

Sterling lost two pfennigs against the resurgent mark but gained about one cent against the troubled dollar. The pound briefly bounced after apparently strong retail sales figures, but soon slumped back as a closer look by analysts suggested consumer weakness.

The US currency was quoted at DM1.3905 in late European trading, down more than two pfennigs from Tuesday's close.

The damaging strategic link of the dollar and the peso came into play again as the rate on Treasury bills at a Mexican auction jumped as high as 92.5 per cent and the peso slumped again.

Paper prices spur Reed cost-cutting

BY MARTIN WALLER

REED ELSEVIER, the Anglo-Dutch publisher, expects to be able to absorb most of the forecast rises in paper prices in 1995, of 15 to 20 per cent, by cost-cutting and other efficiency initiatives.

Reed says that it will seek opportunities to use smaller paper, to reduce wastage, to use lower-grade paper where possible and to improve the efficiency of its printing operations. This efficiency drive will mean the loss of "less than 100" jobs.

Paper costs, which are 6 or 7 per cent of Reed's total costs, have been rising strongly across the publishing market. Publishing is also experiencing increasing print cost pressures, although Reed believes that these can be resisted.

The company added: "The economic environments in our three main operating territories are expected to improve in 1995. We are confident of our ability to take full advantage of this and to continue our strong profit growth."

Reed was announcing pre-tax profits for the year to December 31 of £620 million, up from £534 million. The figure included a £40 million profit from the group's sale of its interest in BSkyB, the satellite television station floated at the end of last year, almost balanced by losses of £26 million on the disposal and surrender of property interests.

Operating profits were up by 19 per cent to £663 million, while the rate of organic profit growth was 12 per cent, excluding acquisitions and currency movements.

Earnings per share grew by 19 per cent, to 42.6p, for shareholders in the British Reed International parent. They receive a 14.8p final dividend, making a total up 15 per cent to 21.5p. Reed shares responded with a 26p rise, to 745p.

Tempus, page 24

Grundy says G'day to Wall Street

BY SUSAN GILCHRIST

THE Australian soap opera, *Neighbours*, that launched the careers of Kylie Minogue, Jason Donovan, Kimberley Davies and Bouncer the dog, is set to attract a whole new audience on the New York stock exchange.

Grundy Worldwide, the Australian television production group that makes the long-running soap, yesterday unveiled its most dramatic script yet with the news that it plans to float on the New York and Australian stock exchanges. It hopes to raise up to US$106.3 million.

The company will initially offer 5.32 million shares at an estimated offer price of between $18.0 and $20.0 a share. Reg Grundy, the founder, will retain a majority stake.

About 2.66 million shares of common stock will be offered initially in the US and Canada, 1.33 million in Australia, New Zealand and Asian countries, excluding Japan, and 1.33 million shares elsewhere outside North America and the Asia Pacific.

Mr Grundy founded the company in 1958. Its programmes, which include game shows as well as soap operas, can now be seen in countries as diverse as New Zealand, the UK, Sweden, Italy and Chile. Expansion into South Africa, Eastern Europe and Asia is planned.

The company made a net profit of US$15.8 million on sales of $79.6 million for the year to June 30. Although of Australian origin, *Neighbours* has become almost a British institution. At its peak, it attracted 18 million viewers and rivalled the royal family in terms of popularity and tabloid headlines.

Many of its early participants went on to enjoy pop stardom, but few furthered their acting careers. The programme has even been the subject of a university doctorate. Michael Stewart, its author, claimed its appeal lay in the feeling of ironic superiority it gave viewers. Mr Grundy, now counting his millions, must know the feeling.



Kimberley Davies: *Neighbours* star

NOTICE OF MEETING

Clerical Medical
INVESTMENT GROUP

Annual General Meeting

Notice is given that the 171st Annual General Meeting of the Clerical, Medical and General Life Assurance Society will be held at 15 St James's Square, London SW1Y 4LQ on Wednesday, 19 April 1995 at 2.30pm for the following purposes:

1 To receive the Directors' Report and the Audited Accounts for the year ended 31 December 1994.
2 To receive a Report on the actuarial valuation of the Society's liabilities as at 31 December 1994, made for the purpose of a distribution of profit.
3 To re-elect Directors and to fix their remuneration.
4 To re-appoint the Auditors and to authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration.
5 To transact any other ordinary business of an Annual General Meeting.

Any member entitled to attend and vote at the Meeting may appoint a proxy to attend and vote instead of him.

A proxy need not be a member of the Society.

Any instrument appointing a proxy must be deposited at the undermentioned address not less than 48 hours before the time fixed for the Meeting.

By order of the Board
S A M Fogarty
Secretary

15 St James's Square
London SW1Y 4LQ
15 March 1995

Issued by Clerical, Medical and General Life Assurance Society. Regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and IMRO

THE TIMES

BUSINESS TO BUSINESS

APPEARS EVERY TUESDAY

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☐ Haste will not serve electricity investors ☐ End of the road for a regulator ☐ Tweedie's tax carrot

Power vacuum

☐ THE time has come to decide whether the City Code on Takeovers and Mergers is a binding set of rules whose application can be relied on in all cases or an optional extra to be negotiated away at will.

Given that Northern Electric's board has made clear it is unwilling or unable to countenance a further bid, investor pressure for it to do so looks like clear greed. These are, after all, the same institutions who have proven in the past quite incapable of mounting a similar concerted effort to counter some of the more flagrant examples of corporate misgovernance.

The whole tangled situation can end in a number of ways. Professor Littlechild can throw up his hands in horror, declare the past week a hideous mistake and walk away from reviewing prices, or the industry can avoid such a review by agreeing the sort of "quick fix" so derided by this column yesterday. In either case Trafalgar bids again, and is bound to offer 950p.

This is not going to happen. If, as expected, Professor Littlechild goes for a full review next Friday, Trafalgar will claim enough smoke has cleared from the battlefield for it to launch a further bid, which should also be at 950p. Northern has the option of consenting and putting the new bid to its shareholders.

Again, this is not going to happen. Northern has the right to wait until the end of the review, a point made plain by the Takeover Panel last night. If there is also a Monopolies Commission inquiry, a move Northern could itself trigger at will, this would push any further bid into next year. This would provide something like the year's grace allowed under the takeover rules, and any bid then would be at a price impossible to set now.

For Trafalgar to proceed before then would require one of two things. It would require the Panel to make an exception at some stage and sufficiently mangle the rules to allow it to, which would effectively tear up the code and would cause untold grief in boardrooms up and down the land.

This, too, is not going to happen — one hopes. Alternatively, it would require Northern to cave in to shareholder pressure and allow a bid through anyway. Those tempted to exert such pressure might bear in mind two things. As the weeks or months progress, the certainty of 950p still being on the table at the end erodes. Too long a delay, and Trafalgar can set its own price, which might be rather closer to the then market price.

Second, if Trafalgar takes control ahead of the conclusion of the regulatory review, Professor Littlechild will feel honour bound to use the review to ensure they do not get a bargain. Suffering equally would be the other 11 regulated companies, in whom those aggrieved shareholders also doubtless have significant holdings. The value of those holdings would dive, so risking wiping out any gains from forcing through a successful Trafalgar bid.

Confusing lack of prudence



☐ MICK NEWMARCH, as chief executive of the mighty Prudential, was the biggest and prickliest thorn in the side of the City's regulatory establishment. Here was a man who could spot a naked emperor at 500 paces and would not keep it to himself. A cynical view might therefore be that the Stock Exchange inquiry into his sale of option shares in October had served his purpose when he resigned, citing unhappy relations with regulators as a prime cause of his distress. On that reading, the verdict would scarcely matter.

This looks to be one occasion when a cynical view is generous. To the plain man or woman, the long-pondered statement issued by the exchange yesterday morning must seem a casuistical copout. Mr Newmarch did not breach the code for directors' dealings, presumably because he sought and was given permission to deal, though the exchange does not say so. On the other hand, the exchange's quotations committee was "critical of the way in which Mr Newmarch and the Prudential approached their consideration of the dealings". How and why is, again, not explained.

If this is just regulation, it is peculiar and private justice. Mr Newmarch did not intend to use privy price-sensitive information to gain a personal advantage, though it could have appeared that he had. If clearing him of breaching the code ends the risk of drastic consequences, that decision is therefore welcome. No matter if the Treasury and some City folk are hopping mad.

The shame is that these rulings leave confusion. They leave the position of the Prudential, and by implication Sir Brian Corby, unclear. They leave in limbo whether breaches of rules should attract a penalty, let alone what it might be.

When such a basic issue as insider dealing is at stake, this makes City regulation a laughing stock. The exchange, already a shadow of its former eminence, does not really want to be involved. This affair will hasten its exit. It has shown the folly of having many weak, overlapping regulators. That will hasten what the City now reckons inevitable: the creation of a single body with strong statutory powers and sole responsbility.

Paradise deferred

☐ THE latest reform proposals from Sir David Tweedie's Accounting Standards Board are sensibly coloured by political realism. Deferred tax, the subject of its discussion paper, has not caused public scandal or sent ordinary folk leaping about in outrage. Some judicious sweetening of the pill is therefore wise if the board wants to get its proposals through the bristling ranks of finance directors and tax accountants.

As Robert Bruce explains (page 28), the board has stuck logically by its principles. It wants company accounts to recognise all potential tax liabilities, due for instance to unwinding accelerated capital allowances, whether or not management reckons cheques will ever have to be sent to the Inland Revenue. Directors' discretion caused many real accounting scandals, so the principle is right.

As stock market analysts have pointed out, however, the change to full tax provisioning could knock reported earnings by a tenth on average, much more for companies with big capital spending programmes. Deferred tax is a liability on balance sheets too, so the reform would also increase loan gearing. Water and some other utilities, which would be strongly affected, might be pleased to see reported profits fall. Most others would not.

To counter such unpopularity, the board suggests that future tax liabilities be discounted by the rate of interest on government bonds. This begs new questions but should soften the blow, especially for the most-affected companies. Discounting would also apply to deferred tax already reported and the fuss might, in the end, be about little.

This will not save the proposals from being savaged by professionals. Roger Davis, head of audit at Coopers & Lybrand, says they are "potentially harmful to industry for no compelling reason". Gerry Acher, his counterpart at KPMG, says the board should leave well alone.

If these prove typical of responses between now and June 16, the board will be glad it did not nail its colours too firmly to its preferred reform.

Closer stock exchange liaison urged

BY ROBERT MILLER

GEORGE MALLINCKRODT, the chairman of Schroders, yesterday called for closer liaison between the world's stock exchanges and derivatives markets in the wake of the Barings collapse.

He also said that City houses should instantly dismiss traders who broke pre-agreed trading limits, even if they made money on their deals.

Mr Mallinckrodt argued that global markets needed a code of conduct and a framework similar to that which binds central bankers through the Bank for International Settlements in Basle and the various Basle agreements on capital adequacy and controls.

Schroders, one of the UK's leading merchant banks, was closely involved in the aborted Bank of England scheme to bail out Barings as a potential rescuer prepared to put up money and in a corporate finance capacity.

Mr Mallinckrodt, who was unveiling unchanged annual pre-tax profits of £195 million for 1994, said that Schroders' proposed contribution to the collective rescue kitty was at the very very top" end of the scale for merchant banks. He believes that personnel departments should vet potential employees far more closely than they do now. He added that although proprietary trading was not a major activity for Schroders "we are not complacent and are conducting a thorough review of our current procedures and will update these as necessary".

A 21 per cent fall in profits from merchant and investment banking activities to £110 million last year, against £139 million previously, was more than made up for by Schroders' fund management arm.

This increased its profits by 50 per cent to £85.4 million, from £56.8 million last time, with new money flowing in from pension funds, charities and unit and investment trust investors.

Funds under management at the year-end stood at £57.6 billion and a further £3 billion has been added so far this year.

The merchant bank also announced that it was proposing to issue one share for every two in issue and was recommending a final dividend of 14.5p to raise the total payout for the year to 20.5p.

THE TIMES
Win a £6,000 PEP



A Personal Equity Plan (PEP) is a way of investing money out of the reach of the tax man and *The Times*, in association with TSB Bank, is offering you the chance to win a £6,000 PEP.

Answer the questions which appeared on Saturday and which will reappear tomorrow, collect four of the six PEP tokens which are appearing each day, and you could win an investment in your choice of three TSB unit trusts:

- The TSB UK Income Fund aims to provide a high-income return with the potential for some capital growth over the longer term, from investments in Britain;
- The TSB UK Growth Fund invests in a wide range of UK ordinary shares and aims for long-term capital growth;
- The TSB Worldwide Growth Fund aims for long-term capital growth from a broad spread of international securities, with at least half of the fund invested in Europe.

These three funds, which were launched in November 1994, have all ranked in the top quartile of their particular unit trust sectors over the past three months.*

Because of the regulations governing PEPs, winners will receive a holding in the unit trust of their choice. Provided they are eligible, they will be able to convert this to a PEP at no cost either immediately or, if they have already taken out a PEP this year, after the end of the current financial year.

A PEP investment is an excellent home for long-term savings, with all income and capital growth exempt from both income tax and capital gains tax. Readers can obtain full details of TSB PEPs at their nearest TSB Bank branch.

How to enter

Collect four of the six tokens which are appearing this week and send them on a postcard with the answer to Saturday's questions plus the tie-breaker by March 22, 1995 to: *The Times* Win a PEP Competition, Week 4, 16 Whitefriars Street, EC4B 2NG. The winner will be selected from all correct entries received by the closing date.

* Source: Micropal offer-to-offer, income not reinvested. (As at 18.2.95).

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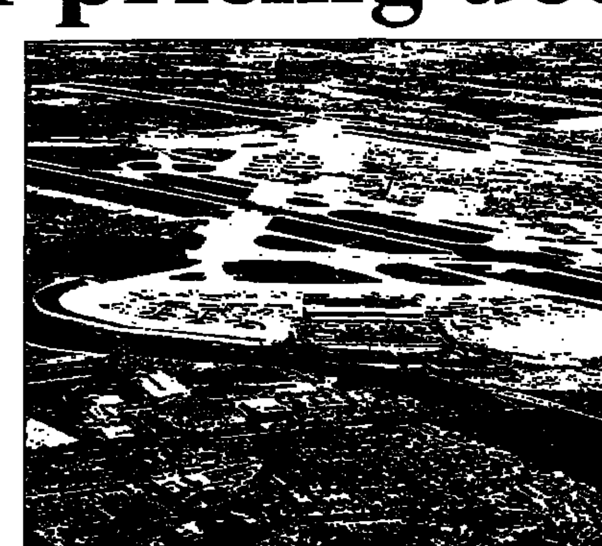
STOCK MARKET | MICHAEL CLARK

BAA shares take off after pricing decision

IT WAS chocks away for BAA, Britain's biggest independent airport operator. The shares climbed 15p to 440p with the backing of two buy recommendations from Smith New Court and UBS, the brokers.

This came after reports that the Department of Transport had agreed to keep current pricing controls at Britain's airports in place until the turn of the century at the earliest.

That is regarded as positive news for BAA, which will not have to undergo the sort of regulatory uncertainty currently being experienced by the electricity distributors and water companies. Almost nine million shares had changed hands by the close of business last night, with some institutional investors taking the view that BAA looks cheap.



BAA soared with the backing of buy recommendations

Hopes of improving on Tuesday's impressive gains proved short-lived, with share prices in London giving up early gains as the dollar suffered another bout of nervousness.

Prices had opened on a firm note, mildly encouraged by the latest average earnings figures, which pointed to a further slowdown in the economy, and a drop in the jobless figures. Investors even shrugged off the latest retail sales figures, which initially appeared to be in stark contrast to this week's survey by the CBI, but over a three-month period were broadly similar.

But it was the US producer prices that pulled the rug from under the dollar and revived fears about another round of interest rate increases. The FT-SE 100 index, up more than 18 points early on, reacted badly to an opening fall in the Dow Jones industrial average, closing 3.6 points down at 3,047.0.

Turnover was sharply up on previous days, bolstered by a large program trade worth more than £150 million, which increased the total number of shares changing hands on the day to 858 million.

Speculative support was again directed at **Northern Electric**, with the price climbing 33p to 821p, after it did a U-turn and said it welcomed the prospect of another hostile bid from **Trafalgar House**.

But Northern is urging Trafalgar to wait at least 12 months until all the regulatory uncertainties have been removed. Trafalgar says that the only way to protect Northern shareholders' interests is to allow a revised bid to proceed immediately. Northern says that it has no intention of automatically recommending a subsequent offer from Trafalgar, which ended the day 1p easier at 57p.

Lucas Industries climbed another 8p to 198p as Smith New Court gave the shares a helping hand with a buy recommendation. **Allied** Domecq, the foods and drinks group, failed to respond to a positive trading update, with the price easing 1p to 504p. It said recent trading had been in line with expectations and that full-year figures in May should show an improvement in profits, earnings and interest cover. Strong cash flow and a number of disposals had reduced gearing from 78 to 63 per cent. **Redrow**, the housebuilder that floated last year at 135p, responded to a BZW buy recommendation with a rise of 7p to 108p.

Costain jumped 3p to 14p as the Kuwaitis continued topping up their holding.

Boustead fell 3p to 19p after issuing a profits warning. The group said that it had been anticipating a substantial improvement in profits during the current year before uncovering understatements on materials and overhead expenses at one of its subsidiaries. No cash is missing, but the understatements will result in a material reduction in profit margins. Boustead has taken action to rectify the problem and intends to pay an unchanged dividend of 1p.

English China Clays fell 18p to 341p after weighing in with full-year figures showing pre-tax profits 6 per cent ahead at £93 million. The results included a six-month contribution from Camas, its building products division, which was demerged in June last year.

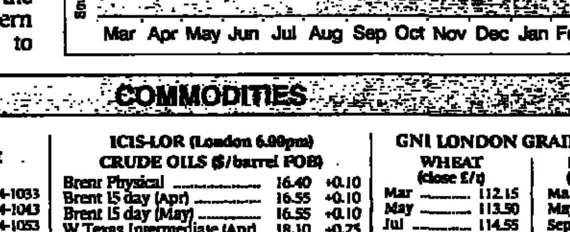
After stripping out the Camus contribution, operating profits grew 22 per cent to £109.6 million. Earning were virtually unchanged on the previous year.

Schroders offset a disappointing set of full-year figures with a 24 per cent rise in the total payout to 20.5p that lifted the share price 38p to £14.78. Pre-tax profits of £195 million, against £187 million, were at the bottom end of City expectations, with the group blaming *flat stock-market* trading in both Asia and Europe. Last night, Schroders was playing down speculation that it was on the verge of bidding for one of the *independent* broking houses such as Cazenove or Smith New Court.

Inchcape fell 4p to 300p after announcing details of a proposed link-up with **Gestetner** in the Asian-Pacific basin to supply office automation equipment. Gestetner was unchanged at 111p.

Vistec firmed ½p to 13p as Bob Morton, the chairman, took advantage of the recent weakness in the price to pick up an extra one million shares. It stretches his holding to 26.1 million shares, or 21.18 per cent.

Cable and Wireless slipped 2p to 386p but could start outperforming, judging by comments from several leading brokers. Credit Lyonnais Laing thinks the shares are undervalued and has been joined by Hoare Govett which met the company on Tuesday.



☐ **GILT-EDGED:** Prices opened firmer, extending Tuesday's gains along with other European bond markets. Drawing encouragement from the latest average earnings figures, the gains accelerated at the morning wore on. But publication of the US industrial production figures provided the signal for the profit-takers to move in, leaving bonds to close below their best of the day.

This was best highlighted in the futures pit, where the June series of the long gilt touched £103⅜ before closing just £⅛ better at £102²³/₃₂ as a total of 77,000 contracts were completed. Among the conventional issues, benchmark Treasury 8 per cent 2013 firmed £¹/₁₆ to £96¹/₁₆, while at the shorter end, Treasury 8 per cent 2000 firmed a couple of ticks to £98¹/₁₆.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Wall Street shares were in a broad retreat at midday. The Dow Jones industrial average was down 9.34 points to 4,039.41.

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 4039.41 (-9.34)
S&P Composite 491.75 (-1.14)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average 16666.83 (+421.01)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng 8365.21 (+270.63)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index 394.71 (-0.10)

Sydney:
AO 1904.3 (+18.8)

Frankfurt:
DAX 2010.14 (+9.69)

Singapore:
Straits 2076.52 (+16.14)

Brussels:
General 6910.64 (+63.99)

Paris:
CAC-40 1738.60 (-30.39)

Zurich:
SKA Gen 587.10 (+0.40)

London:
FT 30 2337.9 (-0.3)
FT 100 3047.0 (-3.6)
FT-SE Mid 250 3346.2 (+13.7)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100 1239.56 (-2.86)
FT A All-Share 1496.24 (+0.22)
FT Non Financials 1615.95 (+0.53)
FT Gold Mines n/a
FT Fixed Interest 109.83 (+0.29)
FT Govt Secs 91.74 (+0.22)
Bargains 30515
SEAQ Volume 858.8m
USM (Datastrm) 144.46 (-0.29)
US$ 1.5990 (+0.0113)
German Mark 2.2247 (-0.0208)
Exchange Index 85.0 (-0.3)
Bank of England official close (4pm)
£:ECU 1.2106
£:SDR 1.0367
RPI 146.0 Jan (3.3%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Albright & Wilson (150)	163	+1
Bath Press (10)	12¼	...
Beale	200	...
Colleagues	126	...
Dailywin (128)	130	...
GET Group (125)	128	...
Geared Inc IT (100)	100	...
Golden Rose Cms (135)	125	-2
HTR Inc Gth Splt (100)	96	+1
-ditto- Zero Div Pf (100)	104½	+1½
Inv Tst of IT	84	...
Inv Tst of IT Wts	56	...
MCIT S Cap (35)	33	...
MCIT S Inc (35)	36	...
Melrose Energy Wts	3½	...
Nati Power (p/p) (476)	171½	...
Photobition (150)	153	...
PowerGen (p/p) (512)	188½	+1½
Schroder Inc	495	...
Throgmorton Dual	101½	+½
Wessex Trust	11	...
Zotefoams (145)	178	-2

RIGHTS ISSUES

Cadbury Schws (340)	198	+3
Cookson n/p (175)	23	+3
Dalgety n/p (335)	64	...
Horace Small n/p (90)	34	+3
Shorco n/p (90)	1	...
Torex Hire n/p (50)	2	...
Unit Group n/p (39)	1½	...
Wyko n/p (52)	14	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:
Kleinwort Benson 580p (+11p)
Berkeley Group 345p (+10p)
Spandex 303p (+19p)
Cater Allen 460p (+12p)
Sothebys 713p (+23p)
BAA 440p (+15p)
Broken Hill 866p (+12p)

FALLS:
Danka Bs Sys 380p (-13p)
Domino 505p (-14p)
Bluebird Toys 218p (-12p)
Asprey 68p (-16p)

Closing Prices Page 26

TEMPUS

A very big Reed

REED ELSEVIER could be excused a note of triumph as it produced its 1994 figures. It has endured a year of sniping from critics after the merger with Elsevier, boardroom turmoil as Peter Davis went off in a huff and the signing of a £1 billion cheque to seal a mega-deal in America. In the event the company has boosted earnings per share by 18 per cent and raised its operating margin almost 2 points to a thumping 22 per cent.

Reed has often been accused of being obsessed with size for its own sake and investors initially feared that the Reed Elsevier merger was driven by balance sheet rather than profit ambitions, an anxiety that seemed to be justified on news of the $1.5 billion purchase of the American on-line legal information service, *Lexis-Nexis*.

Underlying growth of 12 per cent was enough to impress the market and boost the shares but investors ought to have expected as much at a time when advertising revenue is soaring. Ad revenue still accounts for more than a third of Reed's turnover and in the UK profits from business magazines leapt 60 per cent thanks to strong recruitment advertising.

Lexis-Nexis will boost subscription revenue next year and improve the quality of Reed's earnings when the company faces the next advertising downturn. But Lexis-Nexis still remains a puzzle. Its one-month £9 million contribution was exceptional and the company is coy about how long it will take to raise its low margin of 14 per cent to Reed's average levels. The company will be pushing hard to keep its promise of no dilution from Lexis-Nexis, *making this year the real test of the strategy*.

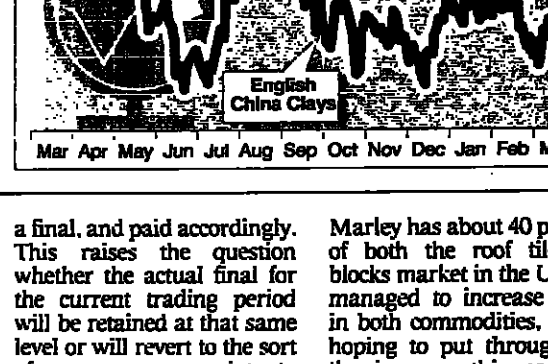
ECC

THE market appears to have lost patience with English China Clays just when everything is coming right. Having finally shed quarrying and aggregates with the demerger of Camas last June, ECC finds itself riding a cyclical wave of volume and price increases in the paper industry. But instead of rallying yesterday, the shares lost 20p.

Part of the problem lay in deciphering figures complicated by a demerger and restructuring provisions, while land sales, which brought in £23.7 million, are still adding a large chunk to profits. The core businesses, however, now present an encouraging but not astonishing growth picture.

ECC is most advanced in Europe with 5 per cent growth in mineral sales volumes. A rise of 3 per cent in prices is good news for a business that has suffered real deflation in prices over the last five years and with production currently at only 85 per cent of capacity, margins should continue to rise as volume grows.

The problem is that investors see ECC as tied to an astonishingly volatile industry and fear the next downturn in the paper cycle. Speciality chemicals should provide a cushion but so far contribute less than 10 per cent of group profits. That percentage should grow and because ECC is only now benefiting from price recovery it should carry on gaining late into the cycle. The gloom is being overdone.



Allied-Domecq

UNCERTAINTIES over the Mexican economy combined with a rejig of Allied-Domecq's financial year has set the market a forecasting conundrum. Yesterday's trading update included figures already in the public domain, but Allied added some spice to the announcement byhinting that it was prepared to be generous in future on dividends.

Mexico is something of an irrelevance until this summer, the out-turn from the Domecq acquisition depending on trading patterns in the run-up to next Christmas and at what level the peso stabilises over the next nine months. Assuming no rise in that currency from current levels, the 5 per cent of group trading profit coming from Mexico will halve in line with the peso's value.

As to the dividend, Allied is indicating that the second interim payment to the end of this month will be treated as a final, and paid accordingly. This raises the question whether the actual final for the current trading period will be retained at that same level or will revert to the sort of payment appropriate to the interim.

The market suspects the former, which suggests that the current attractive 6 per cent yield will continue to support the shares.

Marley

THE story Marley told yesterday was everything investors wanted to hear and sent the price up a few pennies. Unfortunately it was also a tale they had heard already. The missing component was evidence that the building market has some latent growth left in it to keep volumes growing apace in 1995.

Marley did a superb job in reducing its cost base, enabling it to benefit from the volume growth that finally blossomed last year with concrete blocks up 18 per cent. Marley has about 40 per cent of both the roof tile and blocks market in the UK and managed to increase prices in both commodities, and is hoping to put through further increases this year.

But last year's surge in demand is unlikely to be repeated unless homebuyers suddenly choose to ignore the prevailing consumer gloom. In the US, the market also looks sluggish, although Marley claims new products will keep volumes rising.

Marley reckons only 35 per cent of its business is housebuilding-related but it is also exposed to a weak commercial sector and a repair and maintenance market still in the doldrums.

Marley should still achieve a double-digit earnings boost in 1995 from volume-based efficiencies and price increases, but the share rating of 10 times forecast earnings in 1995 suggests that if Marley has not reached a plateau, growth is beginning to slow.

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Mar	990-985	May	1034-1033
May	993-992	Jul	1044-1043
Jul	997-996	Sep	1054-1053
Sep	1006-1004	Dec	1067-1066
Dec	1014-1012		
Mar	1028-1026	Volume:	5822

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Mar	3288-3275	Nov	3087-3086
May	3208-3206	Jan	3070-3050
Jul	3147-3142	Mar	3050-3030
Sep	3108-3107	Volume:	3267

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Dec	327.2-25.4
Spot: 383.0		Mar	320.3-18.5
May	377.5-76.5	May	320.2-17.5
Aug	364.5-63.5	Aug	318.2-15.0
Oct	335.5-33.9	Volume:	769

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 14

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	92.96	136.96	120.69
(+/-)	+2.66	+3.99	-0.34
Eng/Wales:	93.07	127.25	119.46
(+/-)	+1.89	+4.26	+0.02
(%)	+5.0	-4.0	+5.0
Scotland:	91.79	125.71	124.68
(+/-)	+10.34	+2.81	-0.97
(%)	-4.0	-9.0	-5.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	16.40	+0.10
Brent 15 day (Apr)	16.55	+0.10
Brent 15 day (May)	16.55	+0.10
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	18.10	+0.25
W Texas Intermediate (May)	18.10	+0.20

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas .15	B: 170 (-1)	O: 172 (-2)
Gasoil EEC	145 (n/c)	147 (+1)
Non EEC 1H Apr	145 (n/c)	146 (n/c)
Non EEC 1H May	146 (+1)	147 (+1)
3.5 Fuel Oil	104 (-1)	105 (-2)
Naphtha	173 (n/c)	176 (n/c)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Apr	144.00-44.25	Jul	146.50-46.75
May	144.25-44.50	Aug	148.25-48.50
Jun	144.75-45.00	Vol:	10581

BRENT (6.00pm)

Apr	16.56-16.58	Jul	16.46-16.52
May	16.55-16.56	Aug	16.45-16.48
Jun	16.55-16.57	Vol:	43733

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Mar	112.15	Mar	107.25
May	113.50	May	107.00
Jul	114.55	Sep	99.40
Sep	101.45	Nov	102.00
Nov	102.35	Jan	104.00
Volume: 495		Volume: 4	

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Apr	300.0	296.3
May	350.0	345.0
Jul	unq	...
	Volume:	16

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)
Apr 121.25-121.75

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Mar 95	2310	2265	2305
Apr 95	2310	2285	2300
May 95	2254	2200	2240
Jul 95	2010	1990	1995
Vol: 609 lots		Open interest:	4484

Index 2239 +23

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Rudolf Wolff Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2915.0-2916.0	2914.0-2915.0	1739875
Lead ($/tonne)	579.50-580.00	590.00-590.50	215625
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1016.0-1016.5	1042.0-1042.5	638100
Tin ($/tonne)	5360.0-5370.0	5435.0-5445.0	22595
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1793.0-1794.0	1836.0-1837.0	1720025
Nickel ($/tonne)	7515.0-7520.0	7659.0-7660.0	82134

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
Alld Dom.	500	19½	26½	34	9	23½	26
(*503½)	550	1	8	15	46½	57½	59
Argyll	280	14½	19½	25	6	13½	16½
(*285½)	300	5½	10½	16	17	25½	28½
ASDA	70	3½	6½	7½	2	3	5
(*71½)	80	0½	2½	4	9	9	11
Boots	460	42½	50½	55½	0½	7½	10½
(*499)	500	12	23	31	10½	24	26½
Br Airways	360	31	40	46	2	10	13½
(*387)	390	11	21½	29	11½	23	27
BP	390	20	28	34½	4	9½	14½
(*403½)	420	5½	14	20	19	24	29½
Br Steel	140	19½	23	25	0½	2	3½
(*158½)	160	4½	9½	13	5½	9	11
C & W	360	31	39½	47	2½	10	12½
(*386½)	390	11	21½	30½	12½	22	25½
CU	543	9	—	—	23½	—	—
(*544½)	592	0½	—	—	67½	—	—
ICI	650	35½	55½	63	4½	13½	20½
(*676½)	700	9½	27½	37	27	36½	44½
Kingfishr.	420	19	26	39	9½	20	25½
(*433½)	460	2	10	21½	38½	44½	49
Land Sec.	550	41½	48½	52½	1½	12	14
(*586½)	600	9	17	24½	18½	37	40
M & S	360	25½	31	37½	1½	7½	10
(*381½)	390	6½	12½	21	12½	21½	24
Nat West	500	15½	32½	40½	12	19½	27½
(*502½)	550	1½	13	19½	48	51	57½
Sainsbury	390	31½	38	44	1	8½	11
(*417½)	420	10	18½	26½	9½	21	24
Shell	700	20½	31	44	12	20	26½
(*717½)	750	1	11	21½	50½	52½	57
Smkl Bch.	500	21	34	44	8	17½	23
(*511)	550	2½	12½	21	40	46½	51
Storehse	200	16½	21	24	0½	4½	6
(*214)	220	4	9	13	8	14	15
Trafalgar	50	8	10	11½	0	1½	2
(*57)	60	2	4½	6	4	6	6½
Unilever.	1150	43½	63	89	13½	26½	34
(*1186½)	1200	12½	36½	61	41½	52	58½
Zeneca	850	31	57	69½	17½	31	41
(*858)	900	10½	33½	45½	48	58½	67½
Series		**May**	**Aug**	**Nov**	**May**	**Aug**	**Nov**
Grnd Met.	360	26	31	37½	4½	10½	12
(*377)	390	9	15	22	18	24½	26½
Ladbroke	160	9½	14½	17½	5½	9	11
(*166)	180	2	6	9	19	21	23
Utd Bisc	330	15½	25	30½	14	18	22
(*338½)	360	5½	14	18	34½	37	40

Series		Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
BAA	420	23½	33	40	3½	10½	13½
(*438)	450	6½	—	—	16	—	—
Thames W	460	26	35	40	4½	19	22½
(*476)	500	5½	14	19½	26	43	45½
Series		**May**	**Aug**	**Nov**	**May**	**Aug**	**Nov**
BAT Ind	420	17	27½	33	15½	24½	28
(*434)	460	3½	12	18	44	50½	53½
BTR	300	29	33½	37	3½	7	11
(*329)	330	7½	16	20½	16½	20	25
Br Aero	487	22	—	—	17½	—	—
(*488½)	536	6	—	—	50	—	—
Br Telcm	360	18½	26	29½	6	14	17
(*367)	390	5½	11½	16	24	32½	34½
Cadbury	409	36½	47	—	3½	7½	—
(*437½)	447	12	24	—	17	22	—
Guinness	430	13½	22	27½	15	19	22½
(*422½)	460	3	8½	13	47	48	49½
GEC	280	17	22	25	4	10½	12½
(*289)	300	6½	11½	15	15½	21½	23½
Hanson	220	19½	21½	23½	2	5	7
(*234½)	240	6	10	13	9½	14	16½
LASMO	140	14	18	22	2½	4½	5½
(*150½)	160	4	7	11½	12	14	15
Lucas	180	20	26½	30	3½	5½	9
(*197½)	200	8½	15½	19½	11	14	18½
Pilkingtn	160	13½	16½	20	2	5	6½
(*170½)	180	3½	6½	10	11½	15½	16½
Prudential	300	10½	17½	21	12½	15	19
(*308)	330	2	6½	10	34½	35½	38
Redland	420	24	30½	35½	14½	20½	25½
(*438½)	460	5½	12½	18½	42½	46	49½
R-Royce	140	18	22	24	1½	3½	5
(*158)	160	5½	11	13	9½	12	14
Tesco	240	20½	23½	26½	3½	6	8½
(*257)	260	7	11½	16	12½	15	18
Vodafone	180	21½	26½	31½	2	5	7
(*198½)	200	9½	14½	19½	8½	13	15½
Williams	300	21	25	28	6	10	15
(*316½)	330	4½	10½	14½	24	27	31

FT-SE INDEX (*3048)

	2900	2950	3000	3050	3100	3150
Calls						
Mar	148	98	48½	11½	1	1
Apr	154½	115½	80½	52	31	16½
May	175½	139½	107½	78½	56½	38
Jun	188	152	123	94½	73	52½
Dec	279	—	218	—	166½	—
Puts						
Mar	1	1	3	17	61	111
Apr	16½	27½	43	64	92½	125½
May	30½	43½	61½	82	110	142
Jun	41½	55	73	96	124	154
Dec	86½	—	123	—	170½	—

Series		Calls Mar	Jun	Sep	Puts Mar	Jun	Sep
Abby Nat	420	16½	32	40	0	9	15
(*436½)	460	0	11½	19½	23½	29½	35
Amstrad	150	13½	19½	—	0	3½	—
(*163½)	175	0	6	—	11½	15½	—
Barclays	550	42½	58½	68½	0	7½	15
(*592½)	600	0	26½	37½	7½	25	35
Blue Circ	260	15	22½	28½	0	9	14½
(*275)	280	0	11½	18½	5	19½	25
Br Gas	280	7	15½	18½	0	9½	12½
(*287)	300	0	6	9½	13	22½	24½
Dixons	200	9½	18½	21	0	6	11
(*209½)	220	0	8	11	10½	16	21½
Forte	220	13	18	22	0	6½	9½
(*233)	240	0	7½	12	7	17	19½
Hillsdwn	160	13½	15	18	0	3½	6
(*173½)	180	0	4	8	6½	16½	18
Lonrho	130	9	15	17½	0	3½	6
(*139)	140	0	8½	12	1	7½	10½
Sears	90	8½	10	12	0	1	2½
(*98½)	100	0	3½	6½	1½	6	7½
Thm Eml	1000	18½	55	66½	0	19½	38
(*1018½)	1050	0	29	39½	31½	44	65½
Tomkins	220	12½	21	25	0	5	9½
(*232½)	240	0	9½	14½	7½	14	20
TSB	220	18	26	31	0	5	9
(*238)	240	0	14	19½	2	13½	17½
Wellcome	1000	50	53½	61½	0	4	7
(*1050)	1050	0	18½	27½	0	26	24
Series		**Apr**	**Jul**	**Oct**	**Apr**	**Jul**	**Oct**
Glaxo	650	49½	68½	80½	5½	16	28½
(*691½)	700	17½	38½	51½	23	36	51½
HSBC	650	27½	40	60	21	35½	46
(*670½)	700	5½	25	39	55½	65½	75
Reuter	420	37½	49	58½	3½	10½	14
(*457)	460	10	25½	35½	18	27	31
Series		**May**	**Jul**	**Oct**	**May**	**Jul**	**Oct**
Royal Ins	280	16½	23	27	9	12½	17½
(*284½)	300	7½	13½	17½	20	23½	28½
Series		**Mar**	**Jun**	**Sep**	**Mar**	**Jun**	**Sep**
Fisons	140	17½	18	24	0	6	9½
(*153½)	160	0	9	14½	6½	16	20
Series		**May**	**Aug**	**Nov**	**May**	**Aug**	**Nov**
Eastern Gp	550	49	63	70	11½	26	33
(*581½)	600	22	36	46	32	52½	59½
Series		**Mar**	**Jun**	**Sep**	**Mar**	**Jun**	**Sep**
Natl Pwr	420	17½	31	35	0	12½	16½
(*437½)	460	0	9½	17	22½	36½	39
Scot Pwr	300	20	30	35½	0	6	11½
(*320)	330	0	12½	19	10	18½	26½

March 15, 1995 Tot: 48427 Calls: 30180 Puts: 18247 FT-SE Calls: 16782 Puts: 5996
* Underlying security price.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100	Mar 95	3055.0	3075.0	3041.0	3045.0	19063
Previous open interest: 69362	Jun 95	3060.0	3080.0	3045.0	3050.0	10493
FT-SE 250	Mar 95	3345.0	3350.0	3345.0	3342.5	134
Previous open interest: 4555	Jun 95	3367.0	3375.0	3367.0	3365.0	140
Three Month Sterling	Mar 95	93.28	93.34	93.28	93.31	7655
Previous open interest: 447070	Jun 95	92.55	92.65	92.52	92.53	47781
	Sep 95	92.10	92.20	92.09	92.09	20690
Three Mth Eurodollar	Jun 95				93.47	0
Previous open interest: 1184	Sep 95				93.25	0
Three Mth Euro DM	Jun 95	94.76	94.84	94.74	94.79	41369
Previous open interest: 738880	Sep 95	94.44	94.49	94.41	94.47	27696
Long Gilt	Mar 95	102-16	103-00	102-16	102-18	304
Previous open interest: 90240	Jun 95	102-17	103-12	102-15	102-23	77354
Japanese Govmt Bond	Jun 95	111.53	111.80	111.52	111.79	2176
	Sep 95				110.99	0
German Gov Bd Bund	Jun 95	91.35	91.53	91.04	91.12	156177
Previous open interest: 161872	Sep 95	90.86	90.86	90.80	90.62	248
Three month ECU	Jun 95	93.05	93.12	92.99	93.01	2678
Previous open interest: 19094	Sep 95	92.97	93.02	92.90	92.90	1307
Euro Swiss Franc	Jun 95	96.09	96.13	96.06	96.10	2633
Previous open interest: 33300	Sep 95	95.86	95.87	95.83	95.85	906
Italian Govmt Bond	Jun 95	93.30	93.30	92.23	92.43	44157
Previous open interest: 51822	Sep 95				91.43	0

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6¾ Finance Hse 7
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 5½ Low 4½ Week fixed: 5⅝
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6¼; 3 mth 6⅜. Sell: 2 mth 6¼; 3 mth 6¼.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	6⅛-6⅛	6¼-6⅛	6⅜-6¼	6⅝-6½	
Sterling Money Rates:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅜-6¼	6½-6⅜	7⅛-6⅞	7⅝-7½
Interbank:	6¼-6⅛	6⅜-6¼	6½-6⅜	7⅛-6⅞	7⅝-7½
Overnight: open 6, close 4½.					
Local Authority Deps:	6¼	n/a	6½	6⅞	7⅝
Sterling CDs:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅜-6¼	6½-6⅜	6⅞-6⅞	7½-7⅜
Dollar CDs:	6.04	n/a	6.17	6.35	6.65
Building Society CDs:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅜-6¼	6½-6⅜	7-6⅞	7⅝-7½

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Jan 31, 1995 Agreed rates Feb 26, 1995 to Mar 25, 1995 Scheme III: 7.87%. Reference rate Dec 31, 1994 to Jan 31, 1995 Scheme IV & V: 6.624 %.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	6-5½	6⅛-5⅞	6⅛-6	6¼-6⅛	5⅞-4⅞
Deutschemark:	4⅞-4¾	4⅞-4¾	5⅛-4⅞	5¼-5⅛	5-4½
French Franc:	8-7½	8⅛-6⅞	8¼-6⅞	8⅛-6⅞	9-7
Swiss Franc:	3⅝-3⅜	3½-3¼	3⅝-3⅜	3⅝-3⅜	4¼-3¼
Yen:	2¼-2	2¼-2⅛	2¼-2⅛	2⅜-2⅛	2¼-1½

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $386.10-386.50 Close: $386.60-387.10 High: $387.20-387.70
Low: $385.65-386.15 AM: $386.60 PM: $386.15
Krugerrand: $387.50-389.50 (£242.00-244.00)
Platinum: $424.75 (£267.65) Silver: $4.76 (£2.965) Palladium: $161.60 (£101.85)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for March 15	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.4872-2.5123	2.4872-2.4905	¼-⅛pr	1-¾pr
Brussels	45.85-46.26	45.88-45.98	1-3ds	3-4ds
Copenhagen	8.9400-8.9830	8.9400-8.9550	¼-1¼ds	1½-2¼ds
Dublin	1.0001-1.0042	1.0011-1.0037	3-6ds	10-15ds
Frankfurt	2.2185-2.2391	2.2185-2.2216	¼-¼pr	¾-¾pr
Lisbon	234.28-236.06	234.28-234.92	74-85ds	235-266ds
Madrid	203.80-204.92	204.62-204.92	49-64ds	149-187ds
Milan	2675.10-2704.90	2695.10-2704.90	9-11ds	26-30ds
Montreal	2.2368-2.2697	2.2666-2.2697	0.33-0.43ds	0.58-0.71ds
New York	1.5844-1.6040	1.6030-1.6040	0.03-0.02pr	0.15-0.11pr
Oslo	9.9330-9.9780	9.9480-9.9550	¼-¼pr	3¼-2¼pr
Paris	7.8910-7.9410	7.8910-7.9050	1¼-1¼ds	3¼-4¼ds
Stockholm	11.4530-11.5040	11.4710-11.4950	1¼-2¼ds	5¼-6¼ds
Tokyo	143.00-143.30	143.00-143.26	1¼-1pr	1¼-1¼pr
Vienna	15.73-15.85	15.82-15.85	2¼-1¼pr	7-5pr
Zurich	1.8384-1.8613	1.8384-1.8412	¼-¼pr	1¼-1¼pr

Source: Extel. Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3399-1.3408
Austria	9.90-9.91
Belgium (Com)	28.98-28.99
Canada	1.4139-1.4144
Denmark	5.6400-5.6430
France	4.9900-4.9930
Germany	1.4032-1.4037
Hong Kong	7.7310-7.7320
Ireland	1.5809-1.5849
Italy	1692.00-1692.70
Japan	90.17-90.22
Malaysia	2.5447-2.5457
Netherlands	1.5732-1.5737
Norway	6.2660-6.2690
Portugal	148.07-148.17
Singapore	1.4120-1.4130
Spain	128.30-128.45
Sweden	7.2273-7.2348
Switzerland	1.1625-1.1635

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5898-1.5924
Australia dollar	2.1309-2.1337
Bahrain dinar	0.592-0.604
Brazil real*	1.4006-1.4047
Cyprus pound	0.7075-0.7175
Finland markka	6.905-7.021
Greece drachma	360.50-367.50
Hong Kong dollar	12.2946-12.3039
India rupee	50.07-51.03
Kuwait dinar KD	0.464-0.474
Malaysia ringgit	4.0468-4.0502
Mexico peso	n/a
New Zealand dollar	2.4467-2.4496
Pakistan rupee	48.40 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.8875-6.0135
Singapore dollar	2.2472-2.2498
S Africa rand (fin)	n/a
S Africa rand (com)	5.7209-5.7326
U A E dirham	5.765-5.899

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

FT-SE VOLUMES

3i	167	Legal & Gn	4,900
ASDA Gp	8,000	Lloyds Bk	2,800
Abbey Natl	2,200	MEPC	1,300
Alld Dom	1,100	Marks Spr	7,400
Argyll Gp	5,600	NatWst Bk	3,600
Arjo Wiggn	4,500	Nat Power	3,700
AB Foods	542	Nth Wst W	798
BAA	9,100	P & O	2,000
BAT Inds	5,800	Pearson	1,700
BOC	1,200	PowerGen	1,200
BP	10,000	Prudential	4,200
BTR	14,000	RMC	396
BT	10,000	RTZ	2,600
Bk of Scot	2,400	Rank Org	3,800
Barclays	4,800	Reckitt Col	1,300
Bass	6,100	Redland	4,900
Blue Circle	2,500	Reed Intl	8,900
Boots	2,500	Rentokil	752
Bowater	1,100	Reuters	6,200
Brit Aero	1,200	Rolls Royce	4,500
Brit Airwys	8,200	Ryl Ins	2,800
Brit Gas	10,000	Ryl Bk Scot	1,300
Brit Steel	9,900	Sainsbury	2,100
Burmah Ctrl	252	Schroders	60
Cable Wire	3,900	Scot & New	1,300
Cadbury	5,200	Scot Power	1,300
Caradon	1,800	Sears	2,400
Carlton Cms	855	Svrn Trent	1,700
Cm Union	7,800	Shell Trans	5,200
Courtaulds	789	Siebe	1,400
De La Rue	826	SmKl Bch	7,300
Eastern Elec	1,100	Smith Nph	6,900
Enterpr Oil	1,100	Sthern Elec	1,200
Forte	998	Std Chartd	6,800
GKN	1,500	Sun Allnce	5,700
GRE	2,300	TI Gp	882
GUS	1,200	TSB	5,700
Gen Acc	2,000	Tesco	4,400
Gen Elec	5,900	Thames W	597
Glaxo	8,700	Thrn EMI	1,100
Granada	2,700	Tomkins	3,100
Grand Met	10,000	Unilever	1,300
Guinness	6,100	Utd Bisc	1,400
HSBC	5,400	Vodafone	13,000
Hanson	12,000	Warburg (SG)	291
ICI	2,200	Wellcome	1,700
Inchcape	2,200	Whitbread	882
Kingfisher	2,800	Wlms Hld	1,100
Ladbroke	2,600	Wolseley	2,600
Land Secs	2,000	Zeneca	4,200

WALL STREET

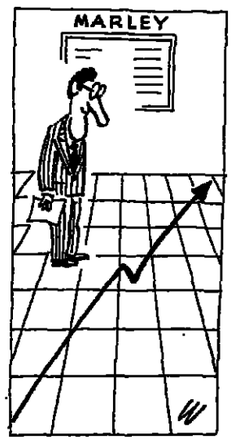
	Mar 15 midday	Mar 14 close
AMP Inc	37¼	37¼
AMR Corp	61¼	61½
AT & T	51½	52¼
Abbott Labs	37¼	37½
Advanced Micro	34¼	34¼
Aetna Life	55¼	55½
Ahmanson (HF)	17¼	17¼
Air Prod & Chem	49¼	49¼
Albertson's	31¼	31½
Alcan Alumnm	24¼	24¼
Alco Standard	70	70¼
Allied Signal	37¼	38¼
Alum Co of Am	37¼	37½
Amax Gold Inc	5¼	5¼
Amerada Hess	48¼	50
Amer Brands	37½	37½
Amer El Power	32¼	32½
Amer Express	32¼	33¼
Amer Genl Corp	32½	31¼
Amer Home Pr	73¼	73¼
Amer Intl	104¼	104½
Amer Stores	24½	24¼
Ameritech	43½	44
Amoco	60½	60¼
Anheuser-Busch	57¼	57¼
Apple Computer	35¼	35
Archer Daniels	19¼	19½
Armco	7	7
Armstrng Wrld	46½	46½
Asarco	24¼	24½
Ashland Oil	32½	32¼
Atl Richfield	112¼	112¼
Auto Data Pro	62½	62½
Avery Dennison	38¼	38¼
Avon Products	55¼	55½
Baker Hughes	19¼	20
Baltim Gas & El	23¼	23¼
Banc One	27¼	27¼
BankAmerica	47½	47¼
Bank of NY	31½	31¼
Bankers Tr NY	51¼	50½
Barnett Banks	43¼	44
Bausch & Lomb	33¼	34½
Baxter Intl	33	33¼
Bectn Dicknsn	56½	56½
Bell Atlantic	53½	53¼
BellSouth	58¼	58½
Black & Decker	26¼	27½
Block (H&R)	43	42½
Boeing	48½	48¼
Boise Cascade	32¼	31½
Borden Inc	13½	13½
Bristol Myrs Sq	63½	63¼
Browning Ferris	32¼	32¼
Brunswick	20	19¼
Burlington Nthn	57½	57¼
CBS	68¼	67¼
CNA Financial	75	75
CPC Intl	54¼	54½
CSX	77¼	77¼
Campbell Soup	48¼	48¼
Can Pacific	13½	13¼
Cptl Cities ABC	89	89¼
Carolina Pwr	26¼	26¼
Caterpillar	49½	49
Central & SW	24	24½
Champion Intl	39	39¼
Chase Manhat	34¼	34¼
Chemical Bk	38¼	38¼
Chevron Corp	46¼	46¼
Chrysler	40¼	41¼
Chubb Corp	78¼	78½
Cigna Corp	74¼	75¼
Citicorp	42	41½
Clorox	61½	61½
Coastal Corp	28¼	29
Coca Cola	56½	56¼
Colgate-Palmolive	65½	65½
Columbia Gas	25½	25½
Compaq Comp	32¼	32
Comp Ass Intl	63½	63
Conagra	32¼	32¼
Conrail	55	55
Cons Edison	27¼	27¼
Cons Nat Gas	36½	36½
Cooper Inds	38½	39
Corning Inc	32½	32½
Crown Cork	43½	42
Dana Corp	24¼	24¼
Dayton Hudson	69½	69
Deere	74½	75
Delta Air Lines	57	57
Deluxe Corp	26½	26¼
Detroit Edison	27¼	28½
Digital Equip	32½	32½
Dillard Dept St	25	25½
Disney (Walt)	55	54¼
Dominion Res	36½	36¼
Donelley (RR)	34½	34½
Dover Corp	59½	59½
Dow Chemical	67	67¼
Dow Jones	36¼	36¼
Dresser	20¼	20½
Duke Power	38¼	38½
Dun & Bradstreet	53½	53½
Du Pont	55½	56½
Eastman Kodak	51½	52½
Eaton Corp	49½	50
Emerson Elec	64¼	64¼
Engelhard Corp	26½	26
Enron Corp	33¼	33½
Entergy	20¼	20½
Ethyl Corp	10	10
Exxon	64½	64¼
FMC Corp	59½	60½
FPL Group	35	35
Federal Express	65½	66½
Fed Nat Mtge	76½	76
First Chicago	48¼	48½
First Interstate	78½	78¼
First Union Rlty	8	7¼
Fleet Finl Grp	31½	31½
Fluor Corp	47¼	47¼
Ford Motor	26	26¼
GTE Corp	34	34¼
Gannett	52¼	53
Gap Inc Del	31½	31¼
Gen Dynamics	46¼	46½
Gen Electric	54½	55
Gen Mills	62½	63¼
Gen Motors	41½	41½
Gen Reinsurance	129¼	129½
Gen Signal	35¼	36¼
Genuine Parts	38¼	39¼
Georgia Pac	73¼	74½
Gillette	81¼	81¼
Glaxo ADR	22¼	22½
Goodrich (BF)	43½	43½
Goodyear Tire	35½	35½
Grace (W&R)	48¼	48¼
Grt Atl Pac Tea	20¼	21½
Great Wstn Fin	18	18
Halliburton	37½	38
Harcourt General	39¼	39¼
Heinz (HJ)	39¼	39¼
Hercules	44¼	44½
Hershey Foods	49¼	50½
Hewlett Packard	120¼	119¼
Hilton Hotels	70¼	69¼
Home Depot	44¼	44
Homestake Mng	17¼	17
Honeywell	37½	37¼
Household Intl	43½	43½
Houston Inds	38¼	38¼
Humana	23¼	23½
ITT Corp	98¼	99¼
Illinois Tool	44½	44½
Illinova	22½	22¼
INCO	25½	26
Ingersoll Rand	29¼	29½
Inland Steel	25½	25
Intel Corp	81½	82½
IBM	81½	81½
Intl Flav & Fr	51¼	51½
Intl Paper	72¼	72¼
James River Va	24½	24¼
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	60½	60¼
Kellogg	57½	58
Kerr-McGee	49¼	50½
Kimberly-Clark	51½	51½
Kmart	12	12
Knight-Ridder	55	55½
Lilly (Eli)	68½	68½
Limited Inc	18½	18½
Lin Brdcstng	121½	121½
Lincoln Natl	40¼	40½
Litton	33½	33¼
Liz Claiborne	14¼	14½
Lockheed	81½	81½
Louisiana Pac	27	27½
MCI Comm	20	20¼
Marriott Intl	33½	33¼
Marsh & McLnn	83¼	83½
Masco Corp	25½	25½
May Dept St	34½	34¼
Maytag Corp	16¼	16½
McDonalds	34¼	35½
McDonnell D	55½	55½
McGraw Hill	69½	69¼
Mead Corp	52¼	52½
Medtronic	64¼	64½
Mellon Bk	39¼	38¼
Melville Corp	31½	31½
Merck Inc	42½	42½
Merrill Lynch	43	43
Minnesota Mine	56½	57½
Mobil Corp	88½	88¼
Monsanto	76½	75½
Morgan (JP)	60½	60¼
Motorola Inc	57½	58½
Natl Medical	15	14½
Natl Semi	17¼	17½
Natl Service Ind	26½	26½
Navistar Intl	12½	12½
NBD Bancorp	31½	31½
NY Times A	21½	21½
Newmont Mng	40½	40½
Niag Mohawk	14½	14¼
Nike B	76½	75½
NL Industries	12¼	13
Noram Energy	5½	5½
Nordstrom	38¼	37½
Norfolk Sthrn	65	66
Nthn State Pwr	43½	43½
Norwest Corp	25½	25½
Nynex Corp	40½	40¼
Occidental Pet	20½	20½
Ohio Edison	20	20
Oracle Systems	33½	33½
Oryx Energy Co	11½	11½
Owens Corning	33½	34¼
PPG Industries	35½	35½
PNC Bank	24½	24½
Paccar Inc	42¼	43½
Pacificorp	18½	18½
Pac Enterprises	23½	23½
Pac Gas & Elect	24½	25
Pac Telesis	30½	30½
Pall Corp	21½	21½
Panhandle East	22½	22½
Parker Hannifin	43½	44½
Peco Energy	25	25½
Penney (JC)	43½	43½
Pennzoil	47½	47½
Pepsico	39½	39½
Pfizer	84	84½
Phelps Dodge	53½	53½
Philip Morris	63½	63½
Phillips Pet	35½	35½
Pitney Bowes	35½	35½
Polaroid	32½	33
PriceCostco	12½	13½
Procter & Gmbl	68½	68½
Providian	36½	36
Pub Serv E & G	27½	27½
Quaker Oats	32½	32½
Ralston Purina	48½	48½
Raychem Corp	40½	40½
Raytheon	71½	70½
Reebok Intl	34½	35
Reynolds Metals	47½	48
Roadway Srvcs	50	50½
Rockwell Intl	39½	39½
Rohm & Haas	57½	58½
Royal Dutch	116½	116½
Rubbermaid	32½	32½
Safeco Corp	55½	55½
St Paul's Cos	50	50½
Salomon Inc	34	34½
Santa Fe Pac	22½	12½
Sara Lee Corp	27	27½
Seecorp	15½	15½
Schering Plough	76½	76½
Schlumberger	57½	57½
Scott Paper	83½	82½
Seagram	30½	30½
Sears Roebuck	50½	51½
Shell Trans	68½	69
Sherwin Wllms	34½	34½
Skyline Corp	18½	18½
Snap-On-Tools	34½	34½
Southern Co	20½	20½
Sthwestern Bell	41½	41½
Sprint Corp	28½	28½
Stanley Works	40½	40½
Sun Company	28½	28½
Sun Microsys	32½	32½
Suntrust	53½	53½
Supervalu	26½	26½
Sysco Corp	27½	27
TRW Inc	65½	66½
TCC Inds	2½	2½
Tandem Comp	17	17½
Tandy Corp	47½	47½
Teledyne	22½	22½
Temple Inland	46½	47½
Tenneco	45½	46
Texaco	65½	65½
Texas Inst	89½	91½
Texas Utilities	31½	31½
Textron	54½	55
Time Warner	38½	38½
Times-Mirror A	18	18½
Timken	33½	33½
Torchmark	41½	41½
Toys R Us	24½	24
Transamerica	55½	54½
Travelers	38½	38½
Tribune	54½	55
Tyco Labs	52½	52½
UST Inc	30½	30½
UAL	97½	92
USX Marathon	16½	16½
Unicom	24½	24½
Unilever NV	129½	126
Union Camp	49½	50½
Union Carbide	29½	28½
Union Pacific	51½	52½
Unisys Corp	9½	9½
USAIR Group	5½	5½
USF&G Corp	14½	14
US Life	36½	36½
US West	40½	40½
United Tech	65½	66½
Unocal Corp	28	28½
Upjohn	35½	35½
VF Corp	50½	50½
WMX Tech	27½	27½
Wal-Mart Stores	24½	24½
Warner-Lambert	77	76½
Wells Fargo	159½	160
Westinghouse El	14½	14½
Weyerhaeuser	38	38½
Whirlpool	52½	53
Whitman	18	18½
Winn Dixie	55½	55½
Woolworth	16½	16½
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	45½	45½
Xerox	114½	115½
Yellow Corp	17½	17½

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Back in the limelight

CEDRIC BROWN, of *British Gas* and high salary fame, not only taketh. He giveth away too. As part of its "good works", the company has donated £2,000 towards the preservation of Malvern's Victorian gas lamps. There are about 100 around the Malvern Hills, but because running costs are over £100 per year each they were under threat of extinction. In stepped British Gas with a lifeline, and the locals lit up.

CITY watchers say SG Warburg, where the employment number has been cut by hundreds in recent months, could be swinging the axe yet again. After all, the bank's year end is on March 31 and if any company hopes to start off a new financial year with a clean slate, it takes all the hits in one year.



Heavy mail

IF YOU are a Lonrho shareholder and happen to be late for work tomorrow, then you'll have every excuse. Tiny Rowland's personal circular to Lonrho shareholders, in which he gives his side of the story and background to his recent ousting as a director and employee — not a man "to be dismissed as if I was a secretary" — is due to be mailed this afternoon and should be coming through letter boxes tomorrow — Royal Mail willing. All 16 pages of it!

Lift man

IF AT the Ideal Home Exhibition yesterday you heard Jim Rawson, chairman of house building group Epwin, *mutter that the ideal home is not* on the sixth floor, here's why. On Tuesday, he reported a 32 per cent rise to £6.18 million in 1994 pre-tax profits, and returned to his London flat. It had been a good day, that is until the lift got stuck between the 5th and 6th floor. He then found the emergency telephone was out of order, and had to shout for 45 minutes before anyone heard him.

IT HAS been 74 years since the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales admitted its first woman. Yesterday, Nicola Cryer, 26, from Northallerton, Yorkshire, became its 16,000th.

UBS's Big gun

RUSSELL WRIGHT, an Army and City man to his finger tips, is proof that there is life after the military. He left the Army in 1989 after 33 years, in the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, set up and ran the direct-dealing arm of an underwriting agency at Lloyd's. In 1991, he went to Kleinwort Benson Investment Management where he was a member of the charities division. Now he has been poached by Cantrade Investment Management, part of UBS, to lead the battle for charities' money. If you ever doubted how methodical Army types are, consider this, it took him just 14 weeks to organise the re-registration of every car owned by armed services personnel in Europe — 60,000 of them!

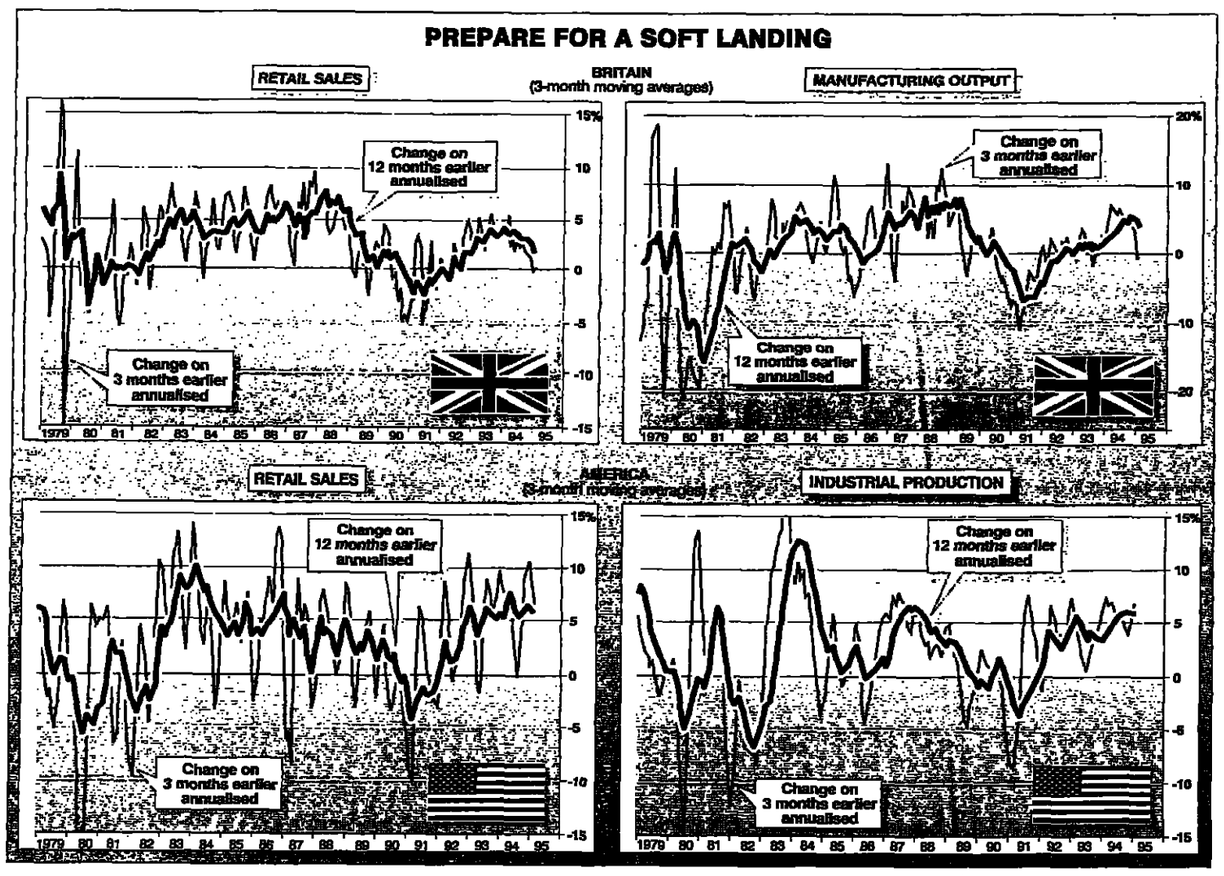
COLIN CAMPBELL

ECONOMIC VIEW — ANATOLE KALETSKY



Start to prepare for a soft landing

Another half-point rise in interest rates might just be acceptable to keep control of inflation



Loosen your seatbelts. After rocketing upwards at a rate that surprised central bankers, embarrassed economists and alarmed financial markets, the British and American economies are heading for a comfortable soft landing. In the next few months, there will doubtless be further "strong" statistics such as yesterday's blip in the British retail sales figures or the jump in industrial production in America. But anyone who expects the roaring recovery of the past 12 months to continue will be misled.

The British retail figure was obviously a statistical aberration, caused mainly by the shift of the January sales into December — itself an indicator of the gloom in the high streets. The boom in American industry is a natural result of the weak dollar, but gradually it will be moderated by the decline in consumer confidence and domestic demand.

Headline writers and bond traders may seize on odd monthly statistics to proclaim that inflation or recession are again upon us — perhaps at the same time. But neither of these disasters is remotely in prospect on either side of the Atlantic. The truth may be duller for journalists, politicians and finanicers, but more satisfactory for businessmen: an unexciting period of moderate growth and low inflation, stretching towards the end of the decade.

This is the prospect the City and Wall Street have come to describe as a "soft landing", in contrast to the "hard landing" predicted a few months ago by the many analysts, who expected interest rates to rise so far and so fast that a full-scale recession would result by 1996. In fact, it was always more likely that Britain and America would make a relatively smooth transition from the unsustainably rapid growth rates typical in the early "recovery" years of an economic cycle, to the slower growth that is normal in a cycle's middle years. This middle-aged period of the cycle should see three or four years of growth averaging 2 to 3 per cent a year. Only after such a prolonged middle-age, with moderate growth and steady or falling unemployment, does the cycle typically enter its mature, final phase. Only then do workers and consumers become over-confident and investors over-optimistic. Only then does inflationary overheating becomes a serious problem. At this stage monetary and fiscal policy may be tightened, but businessmen, trade unions and consumers are so self-confident they ignore higher taxes and interest rates. Only then does policy have to be tightened so abruptly that a new recession results.

Given that the last recession ended only two years ago in Britain and three years ago in America, another boom and bust is most unlikely to follow as soon as the impatient financial markets sometimes seem to expect. Apart from the exceptionally brief and erratic swings of the 1970s, business cycles in the postwar period have usually lasted ten years or more. Perhaps "usually" is the wrong word, since there have been only four full cycles since 1949. This is too small a sample for any reliable conclusions to be drawn about what is really "usual". But apart from the reassuring observation that three of the four post-war cycles *have* lasted about a decade, there are analytical reasons for believing that business cycles as short as the six years from 1973 to 1979 will remain the exception.

The economic cycle is a man-made phenomenon, not an act of God. Cycles occur because people have a natural propensity to project forward their present mood into the distant future and to swing between extremes of euphoria and gloom. In the days before governments and central banks learnt to restrain economic cycle through active demand management, the swings between over-optimism and pessimism among businessmen and financiers led to large swings in business activity which often lasted even longer than a decade, but usually climaxed in very serious financial crises, deep depressions or wars. After the Second World War, when governments began deliberately counteracting swings in private sector activity with changes in monetary and fiscal policy, cycles have tended to be shorter, recessions have been briefer and the amplitude of the cyclical swings has been far less extreme. Even the last two boom-bust periods in Britain were far less extreme than the swings before 1939. To that extent, Keynes's dream of avoiding depressions through demand management has been fulfilled.

Of course, no government or central bank has ever managed to fine-tune demand sufficiently closely to eliminate the cyclical tendency of a market economy to generate alternating inflations and recessions. But timely shifts in monetary and fiscal policy have almost always succeeded in steering the economy along a reasonably smooth glide-path from the early phase of rapid post-recession recovery into the middle phase of moderate growth.

The reason why this early-cycle transition is usually successful, while the late-cycle attempt to slow an economy usually ends in recession, is mostly a matter of human psychology. In the early years of a cycle, the memory of the last recession is still fresh. Thus businessmen, investors and consumers are wary of over-extending themselves and easily intimidated by a small increase in interest rates or taxes. By the time an economic cycle is reaching its final stage, by contrast, the situation is very different. People have enjoyed eight or ten years of uninterrupted growth. They have forgotten about the risks of recession, of insecurity of employment, of sudden falls in their real wages or corporate cash flows. Even when the central bank raises interest rates or the government raises taxes, businessmen and consumers are very slow to respond. If their disposable income or cash flow declines, they are more likely to increase borrowing than to cut back.

Economists and market analysts, meanwhile, react in the opposite way to businessmen and consumers. Two or there years after the end of recession, they are still worrying about the failure of policy the last time the government tried to restrain demand. When interest rates are raised gently or fiscal policy is moderately tightened, they point to the previous period of over-confidence and predict that consumers and businessmen will go on spending, despite policy changes, just as they did in the last boom.

This is exactly the pattern observable in Britain and America today. Policy has been tightened sharply in the past year, in America by means of higher interest rates, in Britain through higher taxes. And people have responded, even while the analysts have predicted that there would be no response at all. The response has been much more pronounced in Britain because taxes act more quickly than interest rates. The very sharp response can be seen from the faint lines in the charts of British retail sales and industrial production. These show changes in three-month averages, adjusted to an annual rate: the rates of change in both retail sales and industrial production have fallen very steeply since the spring of 1994, when the new taxes came into effect.

American consumers and industrialists show less evidence of feeling the pinch. This is hardly surprising since interest rates have only been raised very gradually and usually take a year or more to have their full effect. All that can be said for sure about the American statistics is that growth is no longer accelerating. But experience strongly suggests that demand will slow significantly once the normal lags in monetary policy play themselves out in the next few months. Meanwhile, many economists in Britain are still insisting that consumers ignored last year's tax increases. And analysts on Wall Street maintain that last year's doubling of US interest rates will have no impact on demand.

Fortunately, what matters is not the view in the City and Wall Street, but in the Fed and the Bank of England. The central banks must recognise that policy tightening has worked exactly as it ought to, and there is little or no further need to restrain demand. Another half point rise in interest rates might just be acceptable to keep control of inflation. Beyond that, the central bankers should be as ready to cut as they have been to raise interest rates.

Philip Bassett on a tale of two statistics

Seekers after job facts beset by conundrums

Michael Portillo, the Employment Secretary, was quite clear about it yesterday. "Unemployment," he said, on a visit to Unipart's Oxford factory, "is falling because economic recovery is creating extra jobs." Six hundred jobs were now being created every day, he said.

Labour doubted it. Harriet Harman, Shadow Employment Secretary, pointed out that there are now 1.5 million fewer jobs in the economy than there were in 1989, while the trade unions said that the recovery in the labour market was clearly slowing.

New figures yesterday from the Department of Employment showed that the workforce in employment (WiE), the Government's principal jobs measure, rose by 115,000 in the final quarter of last year. However, behind that figure lie large-scale revisions to the employment statistics that will now allow ministers to claim that the recovery is not, after all, a jobless one.

In December, *The Times* reported work going on in Mr Portillo's own department to try to draw together the WiE figures, which showed employment still falling, with figures from the Government's quarterly Labour Force Survey (LFS), which showed it was rising. Although that work is still going on, yesterday's WiE job figures showed the first fruits of it.

At the time, *The Times* reported that the WiE series was showing a fall, over the previous 12 months, of 17,000, against a rise in the LFS job total of 202,000. Yesterday's revisions mean that this fall of 17,000 is now seen by the department as a *rise* of 7,000.

Ministers proclaimed the subsequent increase in the WiE for the three months to September of 142,000 — which yesterday's revisions now put up to 152,000 — as bringing the two job measures into the same direction. The department's revisions run back to December 1991, but, looking at the period since unemployment started to fall, a year after that, the total *revisions* in the job figures amount to identifying an *extra* 680,000 jobs.

How has the Government managed to boost its jobs total by 680,000 — or 795,000, including the latest quarter's figures? The Government's revisions depend on three factors: more up-to-date seasonal adjustments, more information received from the sources the department uses to measure jobs, and what officials describe as significant adjustments to job levels in the construction industry.



Portillo: lot more jobs

Government statisticians believe that the LFS — based on household surveys of employees — was picking up more accurately the number of jobs in the highly casualised construction industry than was the employer-based WiE, which has now been revised to take better account of the jobs indicated by the LFS figures.

This means, for example, that, in the pre-revised WiE series, construction accounted for 765,000 jobs. Now, after the revisions, it accounts for 885,000. This rise of 120,000 is equivalent to almost 80 per cent of the *total* rise in jobs for the three-month period.

The total number of jobs in construction that the WiE series has "undercounted" since December 1991 is put now by the department at 736,000, close to the industry's total employment.

The construction industry estimates that it has *lost* 500,000 jobs in the recession, and, at precisely the same time yesterday as they were identifying construction as one of the main factors behind the upward revisions to the employment figures, Department of Employment officials said that construction was one of the activities, also including agriculture, in which the number of jobs *fell* in the last quarter of 1994.

Of the latest quarterly increase, banking, insurance and finance jobs rose by 32,000 — which might sit oddly with continuing job losses being announced by the banks. Retail distribution rose by 7,000, which might sit oddly with the fall in retailing jobs announced this week by the Confederation of British Industry, and with such substantial closures as Rumbelows and Athena.

The Employment Policy Institute, an independent research body, said yesterday that the complex state of the UK labour market was now piling "conundrum upon conundrum". Department officials insisted yesterday that their latest revisions to job figures do not cast any doubt on their overall credibility.

Maybe not: trying to reconcile the different stories being told on employment by the LFS and WiE figures was never going to be easy. Poll evidence shows that people's fears about job insecurity are still high, even though unemployment is now down by 607,000 since its peak: trying to convince people that the job picture is better than they see it will be even more difficult still.

BUSINESS LETTERS

Contracting-out protection for workers must be upheld

From Mr Barry Reamsbottom

Sir, British employees have every right to demand that the Government does nothing to attempt to weaken the legal protection they currently enjoy when involved in contracting-out exercises ("Will TUPE safeguard jobs?", February 22).

Before the successful campaign of unions such as mine, to get the Government to put in place an effective law, as required by the EU, to properly safeguard employment rights, companies had almost a free hand to buy up businesses and to make whatever changes to workers' terms and conditions they wished. Staff could be, and regularly were, made redundant and their jobs re-advertised at lower rates of pay with the loss of other benefits. This often resulted in the appalling situation of workers applying for their old jobs on far worse terms.

This is what contracting-out meant for most of the 1970s and 1980s. Any savings arising out of these contracts in the past had very little to do with better value for money being secured. Companies merely cynically exploited various legal loopholes, until they were very firmly closed by a landmark European Directive and important decisions from the European Court of Justice.

In most other European countries, contracting-out is still relatively rare, whereas over the past two years in Britain there have been more than 800 exercises within the civil service alone. This explains why the issue has been the subject of so much debate in this country and not others and also why it is vitally important that our Government does not surrender to the incessant bleating of contractors to tear down the legal protections which had, we all hoped, brought to an end the disgraceful way employers used to be able to treat staff.

Perhaps the most revealing statistic of all is that of the 10,400 civil service jobs that have been contracted-out since 1992, only 194 were without the protection of TUPE. The law is working, so there is no reason to change it.

Yours faithfully,
BARRY A. REAMSBOTTOM
(General Secretary),
The Civil and Public Services Association,
160 Falcon Road, SW11.

Gambling man

From Mr Clive Ricketts

Sir, Let me cast your mind back seven or eight years, when as a young market-maker I appeared on *The Money Programme*. Chosen for the interview by one of our directors, I was asked to talk about life as a young trader and what I enjoyed about it. Among my replies (shown out of context), I compared trading with gambling on the horses, made the more enjoyable as it was with someone else's money. How pleasing it was over the past week to see both the media and "City experts" using the word "gambling" in abundance when describing the Barings fiasco.

Rather than being castigated then by my superiors, maybe I should have been congratulated on my honesty.

Yours faithfully,
CLIVE RICKETTS,
20 High Street, Lenham, Kent.

Option benefits

From Mr Stanley Lerner

Sir, With reference to the current question of share options, I was always under the impression that highly paid members of a board were employed because of the benefits they could bring to the advancement and profitability of the company, and the increase in the value of the company shares.

If this is the case, then surely those directors would have the same confidence in their ability to fulfil these expectations, and thus it would be reasonable to expect that when they were appointed they would purchase shares in the company in their own right.

If at the end of their term of office those shares had increased in value, then they have every justification and entitlement to whatever profits they may receive. The real benefit of share options is that should the same shares not increase in value, or even fall, then they simply do not take up their options.

Yours faithfully,
STANLEY LERNER,
37 Hove Park Way,
Hove, East Sussex.



Early gains wiped out

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place ten business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
533	330½	Abbey Natl	437	- ½	5.1	9.4
314	233	Allied Irish	291	+ 3	5.4	10.0
278½	171	Ass Nat Z	233	+ 12	5.0	8.3
3300	2462½	Bank America	3005½	+ 43½		
247	172½	Bank Scotland	208	- 2	3.2	11.7
640	487	Barclays	593	- 6	4.4	8.7
319	246	Bk of Ireland	302	+ 2	4.8	8.7
2812½	2262½	Citicorp	2625	+ 19½		
285½	203	Close Brost	245	+ 1	4.0	11.7
£150½	£121½	Commerzbk	£145½	+14½	6.1	
1596½	993½	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1137½	+ 3½	0.5	
£44½	£270½	Deutsche Bk	£314½	+296½	2.4	
1315½	625	Espirito Santo	656½	- 3½	12.4	
90	57	First Nat Fin	72		2.6	45.0
1549½	1152½	Fuji Bank Y	1335	- 22½	0.4	
473	195	Hambros	211	+ 3	8.9	13.0
1113	589	HSBC	669	+ 3	5.2	8.2
1133	578	HSBC HK	664	+ 6	5.2	8.1
443	383	Joseph (L)	383		5.9	11.1
693	424	Kleinwort Bent	580	+ 11	4.6	11.3
580	519	Lloyds	572	+ 1	5.6	9.6
620½	472	Nat Aust Bk	513	+ 8	6.7	8.7
622	421	Nat Westt	503	+ 2	5.4	8.1
3300	2100	Ottoman Bank	2375		6.1	5.7
79	53	Rea Bros	58		2.0	16.2
526	373½	Ryl Bk Scot	409	- 1½	4.2	11.7
1574	1050	Schroders	1478	+ 38	1.8	14.3
1458	1043	Schroders NV	1333	+ 33	1.9	12.1
114	75	Singer & Fried	82		5.5	
359½	223	Stand Chart	283	- 1	3.6	8.4
291	197	TSB	238	+ 4	4.7	10.2
1012	569	Warburg SG	710	+ 7	3.9	13.0
£105	8612½	Wells Fargo	£100½	+157½	2.9	
260	194	Westpac	231½		2.4	
330	260	Wintrust	208		6.4	13.9

BREWERIES

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1025	145	Ascot Hldgs	146			
619	485	Bass	500	+ 1	5.3	12.4
299	239	Boddingtons	243	+ 1	4.5	12.5
136	168	Burtonwd Brw	170		3.8	14.2
181	142	Eldridge P 'A'	154		3.3	18.7
66	46½	Fosters Brewing	55		5.1	14.0
433	335	Fuller Sm 'A'	348		2.9	14.4
511	399	Greenalls Grp	403	- 2	4.1	13.3
584	452	Greene King	472	+ 1	3.5	12.8
267	239	Hardy Hansn	257	+ 2	4.6	12.5
170	135	Heavitree	155	- 1	3.6	
3773	3125	Heir J	3380		1.8	18.6
248	195	Mansfield	231	- 1	2.5	14.1
314	256	Marston Thmp	269		2.8	13.1
545	425	Morland	425	- 5	3.1	12.8
10½	6½	Paramount	7½	+ ½	4.3	17.1
339	209	Regent Inns	329	+ 1	2.2	18.8
1737½	1010	SA Breweries	1787½		1.6	28.5
591	477	Scot & New	494	- 3	4.4	14.1
306	212	Vaux Group	214	+ 1	5.8	12.1
504	324½	Wetherspoon JD	504	+ 3	1.6	27.7
617	494	Whitbread	531	- 3	4.5	14.5
589	483	Wolvrhmptn D	492	+ 1	3.5	12.8
208	148	Yates Bros	201		2.4	15.8
535	450	Young 'A'	463		4.0	19.6

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
205	130	Abbey	130		5.0	9.5
350	143	Allen	153		4.6	14.3
154	56	Amec	65	+ 3	5.8	37.5
167	47	Andrews Sykes	165			
462	333	Ashtead	419		1.7	17.9
191	92	Avonside	92		6.0	10.8
41	35	Bailey (Ben) Con	35		2.5	21.4
88	18½	Barcom	37			
292	139	Bovall Devs	174	+ 7	4.3	13.5
169	122	Beazer Homes	134	+ 5	5.1	10.4
304	179	Bellway	190	+ 7	4.6	11.3
59	27	Belwinch	30	+ 1	0.8	16.1
573	315	Berkeley Gp	345	+ 10	2.6	11.0
215	118	Bett Bros	174		3.2	5.3
255	210	Bool (Henry)	210		4.0	10.3
126	35	Brandon Hire	120	+ 2	1.9	
235	122	E Bldg & Eng	124		9.2	16.8
197½	105	Bryant	122	+ 4	6.2	11.6
145½	98	CALA	186		3.6	12.8
54	29	Campbell & Arm	29			
62	44	Clarke T	52	- 2	10.3	
42	10	Costain	14	+ 3		
185	85	Countryside	89	+ 3	5.9	11.2
120	71	Crest Nicholson	74	+ 2	3.4	
140	80	Cussins	88		5.5	
30	17	Edmond Hldgs	25	+ ½	0.8	
473	228	Eve Group	228	- 2	6.0	9.3
60	24	Galliford	24	- ½	5.2	
112	85	Gibbs & Dandy	87		3.9	
1022	823	Gleeson (MJ)	863		2.1	14.8
96	71	Green (Ernst)	81		9.2	25.0
197	121	Havelock Euro	192		2.0	17.6
163	138	Hewden-Stuart	154	+ 2	2.4	17.7
144	78	Higgs & Hill	83	+ 2	3.8	
32	17	Howard Hldgs	17		5.9	13.0
25	6	Jarvis	9			
138	103	Keller	103		4.6	11.9
428	185	Laing (J)	202	+ 9	5.6	18.3
164	83	Laing 6.4% Cv Pf	86	+ 1½	9.3	
145	115	Lon Clydeside	117		5.7	12.4
173	32	Lovell (YJ)	33	+ 1	3.9	3.9
252	191	Mowlem (J)	192	+ 1	3.6	11.5
221	148	McAlpine (A)	149	+ 1	5.5	21.8
71	48	McCarthy & S	48½			17.1
64	51	Morgan Sindall	54		0.2	
155½	22	Mowlem (J)	23		3.0	
217½	163	Persimmon	186½	+ 2½	0.6	
2400	1450	Pochins	1830		2.3	17.9
195	105	Prowting	105		4.3	16.9
115	24½	Raine Ind	24½	- 1	13.0	5.0
61	45	Secure Retire	47			15.2
132	93	Redrow	108	+ 7	3.1	12.6
67	50	Tarific-Rte	55		1.7	25.9
398	233	Sherell Hldgs	385		2.0	15.2
112½	61½	Siroca	90	+ 1	5.1	12.6
245	195	Smart (J)	202	+ 1	5.3	21.2
303	155½	Spanders	203	+ 19	1.0	24.4
257	151	Tay Homes	162	+ 2	5.0	11.9
182	114½	Taylor Woodrw	121	+ 2	1.8	29.6
759	453	Tilbury Dougls	433		9.5	33.2
59½	34	Town Hire	52		3.1	18.2
40½	16	Try Group	18	+ 2	7.1	
129	90	Wcroplant	104		4.5	18.7
170	97	Wainhomes	101	+ 3	6.1	10.9
74	48	Ward Hldgs	52	- 2	3.6	
225½	123	Westbury	130	+ 3½	5.2	11.8
7½	3½	Wiggins	4			
259	124	Wilson (C)	146½	+ 10½	3.6	12.2
571	303	Wilson Bowdn	315	+ 3	3.8	14.0
249	113	Wimpey G	119	+ 2	6.0	14.3

BUILDING MATERIALS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
27	9	Alboughton	9		6.9	15.2
343	283	Alumasc	335		2.5	16.8
65½	43½	Amberley Gp	48		3.3	24.7
363	274	BPB Ind	275	- 2	3.8	14.1
142	93	Baggeridge Brk	126		3.1	12.9
60	37	Barton	37		9.3	
93	58	Blockleys	59		1.9	
391	255	Blue Circle	275	+ 1	5.1	19.5
117	72	Breedon PLC	72		8.0	20.6
154	128	Br Dredging	132		5.3	15.9
409	321	CRH	350		2.9	
70	31	Cakebread Rby	41			4.4
278	198	Capo	203	- 1	7.0	
255	230	Caradon	246	+ 2	4.5	16.3
215½	114	Caradon pf	121½		7.5	
62	31	Chelton Grp	31		12.1	11.5
134	89	Dyson (J&J)	105	- 1	4.2	15.8
97	63	Dyson 'A'	63		6.9	9.5
13½	4½	Eclipse Blinds	11½			
350	273	Ewart	281	+ 3	3.8	
82	57	Enib	61		2.9	34.3
218	160	Graham Grp	165	+ 1	4.0	
399	312	Halstead (J)	320	+ 2	2.9	14.8
511	262	Hepworth	272	+ 7	6.8	15.5
88	46	Hewetson	80		2.3	13.9
152½	63½	Hewitt (J)	77		2.8	
473	246	Heywd Wms	255	+ 6	7.0	12.0
100	67	Ibstock	81		1.5	
294	149	Johnston	271		2.1	32.5
170	85	Lilleshall	85		7.1	
213½	120	Marley	134	+ 4	4.5	11.5
155	123	Marshalls	123		4.6	11.0
569	288	Meyer Int	292	+ 2	4.6	11.4
196	146	Newman Tnks	161	- 3	5.0	20.3
212½	76	Norcros	79		11.1	15.0
20	9	Phoenix Timber	16			
208	143	Pilkington	171	+ 4	2.9	32.9
185	122	Polypipe	130	+ 1	2.3	13.7
1079	805	RMC Gp	957	- 2	2.8	19.8
40	9	Ramus	9			
640	414	Redland	439	+ 5	7.1	20.3
115	70	Rockel	115		4.7	
185½	102½	Rugby Group	106	+ 1	4.3	12.8
103	62	Russell (A)	88		3.2	18.3
288	222	SIG	230	- 3	3.3	
21	14½	SWP	14½		1.7	
200	155	Sharpe & Fisher	175		3.1	12.8
87½	36	Spring Ram	38½		1.6	
206	99	Tarmac	106½	+ 2	6.5	
220	155	Tilon	158		3.6	12.5
370	274	Travis Perkins	280	+ 2	3.7	17.3
38	21	Tudor	28		1.1	
54	33	Unigroup	34			
83	33	Waterhouse	38			
129	83	Wickes	103		2.2	18.4
487½	324	Wolseley	344	+ 3	3.3	5.7

BUSINESS SERVICES

[illegible]

CHEMICALS

[illegible]

DISTRIBUTORS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
127	93	ABI Leis	93	- 1	5.5	10.7
317	248	Acal	294		3.0	15.9
595	253	Adam & Harvey	545		3.6	6.8
31	17	Alexanders	17	- 1	7.4	8.2
175	68	Appleyard	95	+ 2	7.6	16.8
6	3½	Ass Br Eng	3½		1.7	26.8
578	495	BSS Group	532		4.3	18.8
25½	17	Bearing Power	21		6.0	10.8
40	26	Boyd 'A'	26		3.4	11.8
378	288	Brammer	349		4.7	19.4
31	12	Bridgend Gp	12½	- 1½	2.0	65.0
89	78	Brit Fittings	94		3.0	
71	35	Brown & Tawse	35			
57	35	Bunzl	38		6.3	
465	240	Callyns	240		6.0	39.4
59	12	Casket Plc	17		8.1	9.4
130	66	Central Mtrt	70	+ 1	4.9	46.6
51	32½	Cook (DC)	35	+ 1	4.0	11.0
342½	197½	Comet	244	- 1	4.7	
192½	126	Dag Motors	126		6.4	14.5
663	446	Dennons El	588		1.4	14.5
629	414½	Diploma	417		4.0	14.6
589	443	Electrocomponts	492	- 1	2.6	20.2
175	133	Electron House	156		2.9	13.0
283	225	Ells & Everard	239		4.1	15.9
234	193	Eurodollar	193		5.5	15.1
173	87	Europeon Mtr	90		6.3	9.8
539½	366	Evans Halshaw	369		4.8	11.6
656	490½	Farnell Elect	542	- 1	1.8	22.2
78	50	Fife Indmar	53		8.5	7.8
34	15	Gardiner	19		5.3	
46	16	Glencheston	16			17.7
90	60	Gowrings	71		3.5	21.5
76	59	Hatton Hldgs	62			48.4
172	122	Hamc (Philip)	168		5.1	14.7
342½	258	Hewlest	280		3.8	
191	87	Holdsrs Tech	87		8.6	9.4
138	97	IEA Intl	97		2.5	
609	288	Inchcape	300	- 4	6.2	10.0
68	35	Jacks (Wm)	58			13.4
194	142	Kwik-Fit	144½	+ 1	3.5	16.6
573	277	Lex Service	296	+ 2	5.9	15.7
282	162	Lookers	171		5.7	9.2
20	14	Malaya Gp	14		2.2	
9	3½	Middlesex	6½	- ½		
440	279	Norman	380		0.7	17.0
100	47	Northamber	86		1.9	36.5
175	152	PCT	152		6.1	14.7
310	225	Pendragon	231		4.5	
238	123	Perry Gp	124		7.1	6.8
218	125	Quicks Group	135		4.9	14.2
166	97	REA	161		4.7	33.3
5½	2½	Reece	2½			
24	2½	Ress Gp	3	- ½	8.3	
45½	32½	SEP Indst	45½	+ 1½	2.9	
44	31	TLS Range	41		3.0	16.5
265	215	Time Products	227		4.8	15.3
221	151	Verity (Regd)	176		3.7	13.1
335	240	Wholesale Fitgst	243		6.0	21.7
50½	13½	Wills Gp	14½		4.3	8.1
74½	39½	Witchaw	70½		1.2	23.8
66	37½	Wyko	66		1.9	23.8
96	61	Young (H)	73		6.2	13.7

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
202	148	Acwest	153	- 3	6.1	15.6
380	199½	Antofagasta	260		1.7	21.0
62	43	Aumar	43		5.4	8.9
937	773½	Broken Hill	866	+ 12	2.3	18.5
401	273	BTR	329		5.1	14.8
570	372	BAT	434	- 4	6.6	11.2
270½	120½	Beckford Ind	230	+ 1	0.3	60.9
91	43	Bibby (J)	82	+ 1	4.5	15.2
57½	43½	Bowthorpe	44½	+ ½	9.4	2.5
836	636½	Charter	783	- 2	3.7	23.0
279½	185	Cookson	204	+ 4	4.4	20.1
302	217½	Hanson	234½	- 4½	6.4	14.6
220	136	Hanson Crsfld	142		7.9	16.2
365½	200½	Hutch Whamp	263½	+ 3½	2.1	19.1
710	409½	Jardine Math	551½	+ 17½	2.6	12.8
36	27½	Jourdan (T)	28		4.5	27.8
175½	134½	Lonrho	139	+ 2	4.0	25.5
44	16	Porter Chadbn	41			
685½	447	Powell Duffryn	453	+ 1	6.9	12.7
164	118½	Raynar	124		7.6	14.1
489	337	Rothmans	462	+ 5	5.2	22.4
34½	9½	Saltire	14½			5.5
163½	105	Sime Darby	146	+ 6	3.1	18.1
267	164	Staveley	165		6.4	58.8
220	148	Suter	154	- 1	7.7	
268	220	TT Group	227		2.4	
283	202	Tomkins	232	+ 1	4.2	14.9
124	56½	Trafalgar H	57	- 1	2.2	
440	245	Unitas	295		6.0	
324	246½	Wassall	253	+ 1	1.8	21.7
13½	9½	Wideyt	9½		2.6	14.8
414½	309	Williams Hldg	317	- 2	5.5	15.1

ELECTRICITY

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
834½	554	East Midlands	598	- 8	5.8	25.1
866	535	Eastern Grpt	582	- 11	5.3	12.7
785	534	London Elect	600	- 7	5.1	9.2
886	621	Manweb	651		5.2	7.8
849½	547	Midlands Elect	623	- 1	5.0	9.6
520	404½	National Powr	437	+ 5	4.4	12.0
1128	589	Northern Elec	821	+ 32	5.0	8.5
421	322	Nthn Ireland	338		4.5	9.0
957	587	Norweb	656	- 7	4.7	7.9
602	449	PowerGen	475½	+ 2½	3.9	10.3
477	304	Hydro-Electr	304	- 3	5.4	9.6
485	303½	Scottish Power	320	- 1	5.0	10.1
490	299	Seeboard	352	+ 2	4.4	9.6
912	591	Sth Wales	662	- 3	5.5	9.0
833	551	Sth Western	640	- 8	4.9	8.5
837	540	Southern Elect	607	- 11	5.0	8.8
909	599	Yorkshire Elec	668	+ 1	5.2	11.4

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
169	63	Acorn Comp	84			
650	478	Admiral	628		1.6	
209	163	Albert	206		3.1	16.0
250	126½	Amstrad	163½	- ½	1.9	
39	24	Artex	33	- 1		
94½	77	Asec	79½	+ ½	1.4	16.3
281	118	Astec	120		3.1	9.7
478	287	BICC	335	+ 2	4.8	17.2
283	235	Bestes Hunter	235		5.3	12.6
16	5½	Berkeley Bes	5½			
535	402	Bicki	456		3.2	15.4
360	280	Bowthorpe	303		2.9	17.4
21½	14½	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	18½		1.7	10.8
383	186	CASE Micro	188	- 6	4.0	12.0
67	32	Channel Hldgs	33		4.7	9.4
25½	20	Chloride	20½		0.8	56.7
80	60	Clayhithe	61		5.5	
180	81	Cray Electr	130		4.1	
202	139	Cray Electr	141	+ 1	2.2	16.4
478	412	Critchley	467		2.3	19.7
403	269	Dania Bs Sys	380	- 13	0.5	27.9
586	421	Delta	456	+ 6	4.4	16.1
565	400	Domnio	505	- 14	2.4	15.4
78	63	Dowding Mills	66		4.8	24.1
1635	1220	Druck	1485	- 5	0.9	25.4
3756½	2300	Electrolux 'B'	3003½	+ 40½	3.6	
39½	21	Eness	31	+ 2½	0.4	
4040½	2737½	Ericsson 'B'	3850	+ 31½	1.2	
86	56	Eurocopy	64		3.9	12.8
451	343	Eurotherm	410		1.7	21.1
410	334½	Farny Group	401	+ 4	2.2	
283	180	Forward Gp	268		2.6	16.5
58	14½	Forward Tech	56		1.6	
353½	258	GEC	289	+ 1½	4.7	14.3
191	102	Gestetner	111		7.5	
191	119	Goodfy	145	+ 3	5.8	
193	121	Ind Control	135		4.7	11.2
385	254	Kenwood App	254		4.6	12.5
1325	730	Kershaw (A)	1300		3.2	9.8
185	38	Kode	51			
55	32	LPA Ind	32	- 2	6.2	22.8
320	250	MTL Inst	302	+ 2	2.0	
281	210	Memfer-Swf	262		2.1	18.4
45	31	Microvitec	33½		1.5	
494	185	Mitel	291	+ 1		
91	60	Pacer Systems	69	+ 2	5.9	
98	74	Peak	74	- 1	5.7	18.6
2175	1400	Philips Lmp pv	2171½	+ 12½	2.3	
358	293	Pilcol	294	- 1	2.0	18.8
344	275	Plico 'A' Vigt	276		2.0	17.6
140	70	Plasmec	118		4.0	
129	90	Pressac	98	- 1	3.6	18.8
43½	17½	Prestwick	24			
303	181	Psion	265	+ 12	1.7	
261	187	Racal Elect	235	+ 1	2.4	19.3
53	33	Radamec	45		5.2	12.6
371	202½	Roxboro	222	- 1	2.7	
69	12½	Scantronic	12½	- 1		
49	34	Silvermines	41		2.5	24.3
94	53	Soundtracks	56	+ 1	5.6	12.8
104	38	Sito Bus	83	+ 1	7.4	4.1
19	9	TDS Circuits	9½			
3225	2265½	TDK	2828½	+ 25	1.2	
447	174½	Tadpole Tech	203	+ 1		
170	60	Telemetrix	61		2.5	
101	51	TGI	83		3.4	15.5
385	191	Telspec	367		0.9	44.3
246	133	Thorpe FW	226		1.8	18.5
158	117	TLG	143	- 1	3.1	20.5
43	22	Total Systems	31			32.2
303	215	Tunstall	238		2.0	16.0
391	256	Unitech	379		2.3	19.1
15½	8	Verity	8½			22.8
483	368	Volex	368		6.2	15.4
200	60	Wellsbourne	63			
168	93	Whitecroft	164		2.7	18.0

ENGINEERING

[illegible]

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
66	31	AAF Inds	36			
160	108	Airflow Stream	157		3.2	15.4
639	440	Avon Rubber	445		4.6	16.0
236	173	BBA	194		3.1	
66½	49½	BSG	56½		7.1	35.3
18½	8½	Benson Group	8½		5.2	11.5
306	180	Bodycote	298		2.5	17.0
28½	17	Boosteel	19	- 3	6.6	
22	10	Cavendish	11½		1.7	11.4
357	275	ERF	355		1.4	
400	296	Flet Tech	394		1.7	22.7
680	510½	GKN	597	- 2	4.6	17.8
4387½	2337½	General Mtr	2625	- 25	1.9	
1239	918½	Honda Motor	1017½	+ 49½	0.5	
432½	304	Laird	316	- 1	4.3	15.3
360	233	Lookers	360			
239	158	Lucas	198	+ 8	4.4	
64	50	Mayflower	58½		3.0	23.8
124	61	Midstates	70			
178	149	Syltone	166		3.8	18.4
261	140	T & N	158	+ 1	4.8	
333	283	Trinity Hldgs	327		2.5	23.7

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
611	480	AB Food	582	+ 4	3.4	12.1
368	223	Acatos & Hutch	244		4.6	9.3
74	40	Albert Fisher	40		11.8	11.8
270	200	Banks (S C)	200		6.1	9.3
387	305	Barr (AG)	394		2.9	13.8
72	15	Bensons Crisp	21	+ 3		
481	374	Booker	388	+ 3	7.1	14.3
56½	31	Bodbeck	35		4.6	16.6
212	156	CPL Aromas	193		1.9	18.4
524	370	Cadbury-Schw	438	+ 3	4.6	13.6
267	143	Cans Milling	247		3.1	11.2
170	130	Cranswick	168		6.1	12.3
154	90	Dalepak	114		2.2	
520	372½	Dalgety	400		6.9	10.9
87	44	Daniels S	44		0.9	76.1
294	208	Devro	218	+ 1	3.6	14.7
101	52	Everest	86		4.0	20.9
8	4½	Fastnglobal	5	- ½		
85	60	Finlay (James)	66		7.9	9.0
20½	10	Global	11½		5.4	10.5
77	38	Grand Central	48			
435	335	Greencore	432	+ 2	3.1	11.1
194	102	Hazlewood Fds	104	- 1	8.1	6.5
196½	151	Hillsdown	174	+ 1	6.9	11.3
26	16	Hobson	25½			
111	65	JLI Group	67		9.0	9.4
488	313	Unique Park	335		6.5	9.6
127	85	Matthews (B)	103		3.3	12.4
181	155	Man ED & F	156		6.9	8.6
246	205	Nichols (JN)	228	- 5	3.4	
271½	193	Nthn Foods	208	+ 2	5.3	10.7
14	9	Anthelbur Fd	9			17.4
46	12	Pascoe's	12			
81	60	Perkins Food	65	+ 1	8.9	
144	111	SeaPerfect	113	+ 1		
119	73	Senby Farm	93		3.0	9.4
122	62	Sims Food	73		12.8	
467½	392	Tate & Lyle	426	+ 2	4.2	8.8
248	145	Treatt	248	+ 4	2.3	17.5
434½	317	Unigate	369	+ 1	6.0	18.1
1247	958	Unilever	1189	+ 6	2.9	
6118½	6496½	Unilever (NV)	7961½	+ 69½	3.1	
368	297½	Utd Biscuits	339	- 4	5.6	27.7
49	33	West Trust	35	+ 1	8.9	24.5
133	81	Yorkshire Food	82		5.4	

HEALTHCARE

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
544	280	AAH	433		5.2	15.2
1141	770	Amersham	835		2.4	17.5
81	43	Anagen	47			
297½	185	Assoc Nurs	186		1.5	10.9
353	243	Bespak	303		4.2	15.5
100	50	Care UK	67			
155	60	Celsis	79			
47	34	Cortecs	34	- 1		
297	198	Community Ht	199	- 2	5.1	11.4
44	29	CrestaCare	31		3.2	
146	96	Ewincomm	102		2.0	13.0
110	60	Ferraris Group	61	+ 1	4.6	8.4
171	134	Goldsborough	142	- 3	2.9	12.7
15½	9½	Greencare	9½		4.5	12.6
513	402	Huntigh Tec	505		1.3	23.5
165	38	Intercare Grp	44		8.4	9.4
325	285	Isotron	295		2.4	15.7
171	107	Life Sciences	132	+ 1	4.2	
152½	74	Lon Intl	94	+ 1		
81	41	Nestor-BNA	41		8.6	10.2
3	¼	Premier Health				
330	227	Quality Care	233	- 2	2.4	11.5
210	118	Scholl	140		5.7	13.4
363	279½	Seton Health	355	+ 1	2.4	18.1
83	40	Shield Diag	40	- 1		
169½	136½	Smith & Neph	155½	+ 3½	4.3	
21	6	Specialeyes	18			
292	185	Takare	199	+ 1	1.5	
313	234	UniChem	246	+ 1	3.5	13.2
400	293	West Hlthcare	307	+ 2	2.0	16.1

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
312	191	Airsprung	191		3.1	12.3
193	115	BLP Group	125		1.0	34.3
39	26	Bilston Btrsea	29			
167	62	Cewell Plr 'A'	65		8.3	14.5
285	163	Creighton N	163		5.9	11.5
165	133	Derby Group	142	- 1	2.7	15.4
168	113	Gaskell	133		4.0	
14	4	Limbest	4		6.2	
231	160	Maybow	166		5.0	
335	245	Oriflame Intl	247		5.4	11.2
438	230	Osborne & Little	395		2.4	12.0
625	420	Paterson Zch	422		4.1	12.3
595	380	Paterson Zch 'A'	393		4.5	11.1
714½	528	Reckitt Colm	623	+ 7	3.6	15.8
291	211	Relyon	277		4.3	
378	153	Silentnight	155	- 3	6.5	9.7
46	27½	Stoddard	28½		7.0	10.7
330	186	Toothbrush	186		7.7	
160	125	Victoria Carpet	125		4.5	7.1
110½	94½	Walker Greenbk	106		4.2	19.5
63	44	Wind Wiged	53			41.3
155	155	Wood (Arthur)	135		2.4	31.2

INSURANCE

[illegible]

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
360	280	3i	354	- 1	2.6	
106½	62	Abtrust Emerg	66	+ 1½	0.4	
102	73	Abtrust High Inc	73½		9.5	
290	182	Abtrust N Dawn	200	+ 4	0.6	
2058	1678	Alliance	1782	+ 6	3.3	
293	239	American Trust	250	- ½	2.7	
479	391	Anglo & O'seas	400	+ 3	2.3	
196	116	Baillie Gifford SN	131	+ 2		
219	172	Bankers	173½	- ½	2.8	
75½	32	Baring Em Eu	35	- ½	0.4	
381	300	Baring Tribnet	308		2.7	
248	198	Barry Starq	218		1.3	
91½	84½	Br Assets	85½	+ ½	6.3	
98	83	Br Empire Sec	84½		1.4	
45	25	Br Empire Wts	26			
234	188	Br Inv	201	+ 1	3.1	
105½	63½	Brazilian	89½	+ 2½	0.4	
272	211	Brunner	211½	+ ½	3.3	
161	117	BZW Convt	124	- ½	7.9	
384	310	Candover	377		4.2	
65	39	Central Euro Gwth	39		1.4	
271	144	China & Eastern	153	+ 3	2.9	
223	161	Contl Assets	164	+ 1	2.3	
95	76	Dartmoor Inv Inc	76		13.1	
328	268	Derby Cap	288	- 2		
173	147	Derby Inc	156		13.5	
109	51	Drayton Blue	51½		20.4	
111	84	Dryto Eng Ind	93		1.1	
156	122	Dryo Far East	133½	- 1	0.6	
784	613	Dunedin Inc G	634	+ 3	5.4	
108	75	Dunedin Japan	78½	+ 1½		
341	292	Dunedin Smlr	300		3.8	
80	22	Dunedin Wts	28	+ 1		
827	678	Dunedin Wwde	685	+ 2	1.7	
122	82½	Edin Dragon	93½	+ ½		
39½	23½	Edinburgh Inca	27½	+ 1	0.2	
360	281	Edinburgh	286		3.9	
179	130	EFM Japan	137			
354	286	Electra Inv	314½	+ 1½	2.9	
220	180	Electric Gen	182	+ ½	2.2	
201	169	Eng & Caledont	174		2.9	
127	106	English Scott	113	- 1		
345	273	European Asset	277		2.3	
174	145	Fidity Euro Val	151½	+ 1	0.2	
103½	65	Fidity Jap Val	69	+ ½	0.2	
172	146	Fleetbury 'A'	149		2.5	
86	62	First Spanish	62		0.5	
343	267	Fleming Amert	277	- 1	0.8	
145	51½	Fleming Chinese	62½	+ 2	1.0	
92	22	Fleming Ch Wts	30	+ 1		
267	196	Fleming Claver	202		3.5	
385	289½	Fleming Contl	292	+ 1	0.9	
210½	125	Fleming Em Mkts	133	+ 2		
264	190	Fleming Entpl	202	+ 1	3.0	
459	278½	Fleming F East	300	+ 2½	0.6	
422	327	Fleming Fledgl	330	+ 3	1.1	
120	89	Fleming Hi Inct	92		6.1	
109	68	Fleming Indian	73	+ ½	1.5	
64	33	Fleming In Wts	42	+ 1		
52½	29	Fleming Intl	29½		15.1	
284	208	Fleming Japan	225	+ 4½		
347	257	Fleming Merc	258	+ 1	3.4	
94	72½	Fleming Nat Res	74	+ 1½		
347½	269	Fleming Overst	276	- 1	1.9	
155½	124	Foreign & Col	130½	- ½	1.7	
106	91	For & Col Inc Gwth	92	+ 1	2.9	
148	93	Frgn Eng Mkts	95½	+ ½		
77	64½	Frgn Enterprise	71	+ ½	1.4	
261	206	Frgn Eurotst	210	+ 1	0.7	
145	114	Frgn German	123	+ 1	0.5	
374	277	Frgn Pacific	295	+ 2½	1.1	
144	116	Frgn PEP	120½		3.6	
192	153	Frgn Smaller	155		1.7	
120	90	Frgn US Smlr	98			
28½	17½	Fulcrum Cap	17½	- 1½		
54	38	Fulcrum Inct	39		27.8	
146	134½	Fulcrum Zero	144½			
213	188	Gartmore Brit	195		4.7	
151	124	Gartmore Euro	136		0.8	
130	84	Gartmore Shrdt	84		14.3	
247	201	G'more Smlr Cos	208	+ 1	3.5	
128	93	Geared Inc Inv	94		11.1	
200	138	Genl Cons Cap	141			
115½	104	Genl Inct	105		11.1	
186	86	Genesis Inv	96	+ ½	0.1	
325	192	Gov Asian Sm Co's	205	+ 4	0.2	
151	88	Gov Emg Mks	94		0.3	
191	135	Govett Am Smlr	145	+ 1		
95½	77	Gov Glob Smlr	77			
112	70	Govett High Inct	70		10.0	
429	322	Govett Oriental	329	+ 1	0.4	
346	223	Govett Strategic	225	+ 1	3.8	
475	363	Greenfriar	393	- 2	2.4	
19	6	Gresham House	19			
303	191	GT Japan	208	+ 5½	0.8	
155	113	H Govett Smlr Co	114		1.2	
138	113	Hend High	114	- 1	8.2	
293	257	Hend Strata	258		0.2	
105	80	Hendt	80		0.8	
116	80½	HTR Jap Smaller	87		0.6	
27	13	I&S Ent	13			
119	93	I&S UK Smlr	95	+ 1	3.7	
129	119	Inv Cap	122	+ 1	5.3	
99	84	Intl Biotech	84			
50	25	Intl Wts	36			
177	136	INVESCO Korea	136	- 1		
122	82	J Fry 2nd Ut	82		9.0	
100	84	J Fry Euro Ut	84		7.1	
255	177	JF Fledg Jap	188	+ 1		
121	99	Jupiter Intl Grnt	99		4.3	
243	194	Kiwi Chtt	199		3.2	
149	97	Kiwi E Mkt	102	- 2		
124	105	Kiwi End	110	- 1		
88½	73	Kiwi Euro Pnf	74½		1.3	
48	22½	Kiwi Euro Wts	23½			
116	77	Kiwi H Inct	78	- 1	12.8	
272½	213	Kiwi O'seast	223½		1.9	
165	114	Kiwi Smlr	114		2.4	
201	71	Latin American	82½	+ 1		
826	672	Law Debenture	732		3.3	
128	93	Lazard H Inct	96		8.3	
97	77	Lloyds Sm Cap	78			
35	26	Lloyds Sm Div	28		17.5	
129	102	Lloyds Sm Pkg	104		4.5	
174	141	Lon St Lawrence	164		4.8	
108	78½	Lon Smaller Co's	81		4.9	
334	265	Lowland	284		4.1	
1440½	887½	Lydenburg	1125		2.0	
620	485	M&G 2nd Dual Cap	525			
151	115	M&G 2nd Dual Inc	117		25.6	
2773	2440	M&G Dual Cap	2548	- 2		
353	243	M&G Dual Inc	245			
77	54	M&G Inc Geared	60		10.4	
34½	26½	M&G Inc Inv Tst Cap	26½			
45	34	M&G Inc Inv Tst Inc	34		18.4	
137	116	M&G Inc Package	116		5.4	
59	50	M&G Inc Zero Div	56½	+ ½		
36½	27	M&G Rec Cap	27½			
72½	55½	M&G Rec Geared	56		8.6	
37½	28	M&G Rec Inc	28½		17.0	
151	127	M&G Rec Pacget	129		3.8	
80½	68	M&G Rec Zero Div	75			
128	89	M Currie Euro	102		0.4	
160	119	M Currie Pac	128	+ 3	0.3	
227	182	Majedie	182		3.6	
65	44	Manakin	55			
324	237	Merchants	243	+ 1	6.0	
90	78½	Mercury Euro Pv	80½		0.9	
45	24½	Mercury Eur Wt	28			
125	81	Mercury World	85		1.0	
52½	17	Mercury Wld Wts	17			
595	482	Monks Inv Tst	493	+ 2	1.8	
158	125	Morg Gren Inc	128	+ 2	4.7	
64	39	Morg Wts	41			
111	48	Morg Lata Amer	55	+ ½		
65	20	Morg Wts	27	+ 1½		
148	104	Murray Ent	110½		2.4	
58	25	Murray Ent Wts	26			
92	73	Murray Emg Eco	76			
42	25	Murray Em Ec Wt	28			
68	54	Murray Emrt	56½	- ½	0.8	
23½	13	Murray Em Wts	13½			
393	338	Murray Income	312	+ 1	4.5	
395	296	Murray Intl	313½	+ 1½	5.0	
164½	153	Murray S/C DP	162½			
174	126	Murray S/C Cap	127			
97	73½	Murray S/C Inc	74		17.9	
3400	2850	Murray S/C Uni	2925		4.5	
548	376	Murray Small	380	+ 1	1.4	
383	302½	Murray Vent	325	+ 1	4.4	
58	15	Newmarket	16			
95	53	Nthrag Inc	52		10.2	
104	61	Nthrag Cap	66			
404	316	O'seas Inv Tst	319	+ 1	1.3	
241	159	O'seas Wts	159			
640½	362	Pacific Assets	433	+ 5	0.4	
542	268	Pacific Wts	346	+ 12		
120	76	Perpetual Jap	78	+ ½		
9400	7900	Personal Assets	8700		2.2	
153	111	Pilot Inv	111		1.7	
96	80½	Piper Euro Sm	81			
93	87½	Prolific Inc	87½			
189	164	RIT Cap Ptnr	166		1.1	
38	26½	River Merc Am Gp	25			
121	100	River Merc Am Inc	100		9.8	
17	9	River Merc Am Wts	9			
150	114	River Merc Cap	115	+ 1		
147	77½	River Merc Ex Inc	78		12.5	
49	9	River Merc Ex Inc Wt	9			
116	80	River Merc Gnd Inct	81		11.6	
35	23	River Merc Gnd Pd	26			
127	106	River Merc Tst Inct	107		10.7	
170	112	River Merc Sm Cor	112		4.6	
77	20	River Merc Sm Wt	20			
449	394	Robeco	404		3.5	
463	398	Rolinco	437		1.9	
99	67	Schrod Jap Gwth	73½	+ 1		
52	25	Schrod Jap Gwth Wt	30			
1112½	731½	Schrod Kong Fd	751½	- 2	0.2	
650½	350½	Sch Korea Fd Wt	360½	- 2		
113½	103	Sch Spl Zero Div	112½	+ ½		
37	27	Sch Split Fd Cap	27	- ½		
129	107½	Sch Split Fd Inct	108		8.7	
99	86	Schrod UK Gwth	88		2.1	
42	28	Schrod UK Gwth Wt	29			
262½	200	Scot	205½	+ 2	3.1	
183	147½	Scot American	151		4.1	
368	216	Scot Asian	245	+ 4		
1070	555	Scot Wts	585	+ 20		
97½	74½	Scot Eastern	79		2.6	
264½	205	Scot Mtge	211		2.5	
106½	78½	Scot Nat Tst	79		11.9	
133½	100½	Scot Value	101½		3.5	
1795	1475	Second Alliance	1564	+ 1	3.4	
106	76	Secs Tst of Scot	78½	+ ½	5.2	
179	125	Selective Asset	125		1.6	
161	123	SHIRES	124		5.7	
51½	31½	Sphere Inv	31½		16.2	
343	290	St Andrew Invt	290		2.5	
412	310	Temple Bar	335		5.2	
135	90	Thrnto Asian E	98	+ 1	0.6	
35	16½	Throg Dual Cpt	34			
101	68	Throgmorton	68½		4.2	
164½	98	Tolton Emg Mkt	106½	+ ½	0.8	
177½	133½	TR City Of Lon	141	+ ½	4.6	
181½	148	TR Euro Growth	169		1.3	
285	127	TR Far East	139		5.2	
124½	80	TR Pacific	98½	- ½	0.2	
43½	27½	TR Property	30½	+ ½	3.7	
228	171	TR Smlr Cost	171½		2.2	
152	100	TR Tech Inv	103	+ 1	2.1	
405	177	Torley Tust	190		1.3	
269	217	USDC Invest	217		2.6	
103	93	Undervalued Ast	93			
129	108	Value Inc Tst	108		4.9	
43	31	Warrants & Val	31			
109	61	Wigmore	64		1.0	
257½	205	Witan	219	+ 1	3.5	
113	87	Yeoman Inct	87		19.7	

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LEISURE & HOTELS

[illegible]

MEDIA

[illegible]

MINING

[illegible]

OTHER FINANCIAL

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
165	75	BWD	77		6.8	7.4
132	96	Banc Pict	129		2.9	
185	55	Berry Bch Hld	55		11.6	8.3
215	148	Biotec Inv	150	- 2		

OIL & GAS

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PHARMACEUTICALS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
615	311½	Brit Biotech	486			
483	163	Centoh Pharmc	163	- 2		
271	191	Celltech	254	+ 3		
151	66	Chiroscience	115½	+ 1½		
47	34	Cortecs	34	- 1		
157	103	Fisons	154	+ 4	3.6	
735	520	Glaxo	690	- 7	5.1	16.7
185	95½	Grampian Hdg	119½	+ 3	5.8	22.1
189	130	Medeva	195	- 1	2.1	
3	½	Premier Health				
330	237	Quality Care	233	- 2	2.4	11.5
355	242	Scotia	350	+ 1		
83	40	Shield Diag	40	- 1		
622	357½	SmithKline	511	- 5½	3.2	
500	322	SmithKline Unit	487	- 5	3.3	
1054	498	Wellcome	1050	- 2	2.7	32.6
934	672	Zeneca	857	+ 2	4.2	19.3

PRINTING & PAPER

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
184	120	AG Holdings	130		5.7	11.3
444	325	API	414		2.7	19.7
316	219	Arjo Wiggins	241	+ 3	3.8	13.2
205	145	Aspen Comc	164		3.8	18.6
473	347	Bemrose	356	- 2	4.3	12.7
524	387	Bowater	414	- ½	3.9	15.5
2112½	1378½	Bowater Inct	1956½	- 9½		
297	242	Boxmore Intl	279		1.8	17.0
521	435	Br Polythene	521	+ 1	3.4	
176	22	Br Thornton	25		10.0	2.2
189½	112	Britton Grp	138		2.3	
186	139	Bunzl	172	- 1½	3.0	20.2
198	129	Capital Inds	140		4.0	11.0
2446½	1890½	Carnaud Mtl	2118½	- 12½	2.4	15.5
423	254	Cropper (James)	254		1.7	13.4
1054	825	De La Rue	893	- 6	2.9	16.2
114	58	Delyn Group	58		3.6	10.5
137	96	Dolphin Pack	96		5.9	12.3
101	75	Fanway Group	81		5.6	13.2
430	295	Ferguson Intl	319	+ 1	5.0	12.8
145	103	Ferry Pick	110		6.9	
30	1½	Hunterprint	1½			
230	138	Inveresk	152		4.7	
295	248	Jarvis Porter	282	- 1	2.4	18.4
433	364	Low & Bonar	426	+ 3	3.4	14.0
69	44½	MY Holdings	50		4.0	11.9
271	225	Macfarlane	229		2.2	18.4
160	150	Photobition	153		4.9	11.1
250	148	Phyca	186		4.7	30.3
1089	513	Portals	1040		2.0	28.2
412	314	St Ives Gp	325		2.5	17.6
1185½	464½	Sappi	1166½	- 6½	0.4	
30½	6½	Sent	8			
351½	143	Stoire	150		9.2	
573	398	Smith David	537	+ 2	2.9	16.3
482½	274½	Smurfit (Jeff)	362	- 5	1.5	51.6
119	82	Sonoc	94		3.7	10.0
40	36	Unit Group	38	- 1		
270	182	Wace	216	- 4	2.3	13.8
291	187	Waddington (J)	196		5.5	9.6
511	350	Watmough	353	- 3	2.8	
149	98	Wyndeham	137		2.6	17.5

PROPERTY

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RETAILERS, FOOD

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
72	58½	ASDA Group	71½	+ ½	3.2	16.4
315	222½	Argyll	285½	+ 3½	5.1	12.2
505	413	Brake Bros	483		1.8	17.4
43	33	Budgens	36½	- ½	3.4	22.2
13	11½	Callers				
137	65½	Dairy Farm Intl	81½	+ ½	4.4	11.3
394	344	Farepak	347		2.5	17.9
60	37	Fitzwilton	38		11.9	
110	87	Fyffes	101	- 3	1.9	
371	160	Geest	163		6.2	
1120	653	Greggs	1118		2.6	
211	133	Iceland Group	156	+ 3	3.1	9.7
656	519	Kwik Save	524	- 2	4.6	9.5
18	9	Merchant Retail	11			
149	99	Morrison (W)	140	+ 1	0.9	16.3
232	126	Nurdin Peack	158	- 2	5.2	8.8
145	89½	Park Foods	111	- 1	2.9	9.9
5½	1½	Regina Hlth	1½			
480	342	Sainsbury J	418	- 2	3.2	14.8
259	209	Tesco	257	- ½	2.9	12.9
198	142	Thorntons	153		4.0	12.5
422	279	Watson & Philip	359		5.3	13.5

RETAILERS, GENERAL

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
80	22	Alexon	22			
248	199	Allders	213	+ 6	3.9	12.0
410	307	Argos Plc	356	+ ½	2.9	18.7
102	64½	Ashley (Laura)	71		0.2	
357	65	Asprey	68	- 16	11.1	5.6
246	176	Austin Reed	212½		3.2	10.7
168	125	Beattie (J) 'A'	125		6.2	16.3
158	110	Bentalls	115		2.2	21.8
185	36	Bettaways	39		0.0	4.2
63	29	Blacks Leis	31		9.1	
264	167	Body Shop	183	+ 1	1.5	16.1
601	458½	Boots	500	+ 2½	3.9	15.9
12½	1½	Brown & Jackson	1½			
363	205	Brown (N)	224		2.4	19.9
74½	51	Burton	72½	+ 1½	3.4	35.7
245	100	Carlors	103		4.9	14.7
304	220	Carpetright	264	+ 1	3.5	18.8
246	137	Chelsea Inc	137	- 1	1.9	
520	388	Church	478		3.7	
171	72	Clinton Cards	72	- 4	8.2	10.5
170	81	C'Wy Casuals	97		5.5	27.8
903	720	Courts Furnsh	788	- 2	1.0	40.1
210	155	Crown Eye	195		6.4	8.1
353	238	DFS Furniture	246		3.7	18.5
287	170	Dewes Grp	210	+ 2½	4.0	22.3
580	530	Dys (Wimbldn)	580		3.8	27.2
154	109	Etam (?)	123	- 1	4.9	9.9
55	32	Eurostar	35	- 3	3.3	17.3
2550	1303	Carners	2300		1.7	6.1
17	12	Garlick	17		3.7	
620½	418	Great Univ	462	- 12	7.7	9.5
179½	133	Gdn Sense	155		4.1	17.8
16	12	GPG	14½		0.9	9.5
45½	12½	GPP	12½	- ½	3.0	15.3
716	513	GRM	731	- 5	4.1	22.0
212	166	Etam	173	- 1	4.4	
226	151	Gartmore	164½	- 1½	4.5	13.5
515	293	Gerrard Nat	413	+ 9	7.3	11.9
355	253	Govett	254		6.9	4.3
1308	645	Henderson Ad	650		5.7	13.6
251½	151	Invesco	154½	- ½	2.8	27.0
50	37	Investment Co	46		4.8	14.7
250	185	Ivory Sime	203	- 1	4.6	15.8
377	233½	Jardine Strat	262½	- 3½	3.4	9.9
475	35	Johnson Fry	116		1.6	2.7
170	85	King Stockl	87		12.9	8.6
245	131	Lon Forfaiting	135		8.6	
124	56	Lon Scot Bnk	116		4.4	15.2
1243	794	M & G	970	- 3	3.9	17.0
323	218	MAI	246	- 2	4.0	12.3
117½	85½	MAI 6.3% Cv Pf	86	+ 1		
902	538	MAN	738	- 1	3.9	17.2
120½	95	Nat Home Loan	109½			10.0
1265	970	Perpetual	1230	+ 2	3.6	13.3
575	415	Provident	543	+ 2	4.7	12.4
365	245	Rathbone Br	221		3.8	13.9
29	21½	Rutland Tst	25½		4.3	12.9
363	231½	S & U	315		4.3	10.3
425	138	Sharelink	139		8.1	5.2
193	105	SP Capital	109		3.4	7.7
499	324	Smith New Ct	475	- 2	2.6	5.5
124	73	Towry Law	73		7.9	17.4
66	22	Tso Hldgs	24		0.5	39.4
199	70	Ulster	74	- 1	5.1	
31	20	Western Selectn	22		1.4	
11½	7½	EMA Gp	9			
284	104	Essex Fmt	105		5.5	11.7
326	170	Etam	204	- 3	4.7	11.3
558	320	Fine Art Dev	338	+ 5	5.4	10.4
68	46	Fired Earth	49			
106	71	Flying Flowers	95		2.5	12.4
280	124	French Conn	280			11.8
364	205	Frost Group	233		2.9	21.5
66	49	Gerves	50		3.8	17.9
136	85	Goldsmiths Gp	116		2.0	20.8
583	462	GUS	531	- 1	3.2	15.3
196	164	Hamleys	184		3.2	47.7
49	21	Hampton Grp	48	+ 3	3.2	
227	142	Hse of Fraser	155	+ 2	4.0	14.0
95	68½	Hughes (TJ)	80		4.0	13.1
355	238	JJB Sports	247		2.0	15.1
779	379	Kingfisher	433	- 7	4.5	16.3
276	95	Kleeneze	95		2.8	27.0
435	238	Liberty	240		3.5	
330	200	Lloyds Chem	221	+ 3	5.6	7.1
184	108	MFI	116	+ 3½	4.5	14.5
460½	268½	Marks Spencer	381½	+ ½	3.1	17.0
680	495	Menzies (John)	510		3.0	12.1
377	238	Moss Bros	347		3.1	13.7
275	214	Next	266	+ 3	3.2	18.3
50	20	OBM	31			
97	33	Owen (G)	91		1.4	
113	72	Partridge Fine	86		4.8	9.8
37	4½	Pentos	4½			
268	130	DC Hldgs	130		5.8	14.2
62	7½	Rhino Grp	8			
209	114	Rosebys	115		5.4	
132	96	Sears	98½		4.7	16.7
46	15½	Signet Group	17	- ½		5.8
549	404	Smith WH	420	+ 1	4.7	21.6
1260	636	Sotheby's	713	+ 23	3.7	33.9
252	189	Storehouse	214		3.3	17.6
206	151½	Stylo	169		2.8	11.4
193	145	T & S Stores	145	- 4	5.3	10.3
136	99	Tie Rack	93		2.2	11.8
63½	3½	Upton & South	3½			
539	384	Vendome	450	+ 1	2.2	34.6
70	26	WEW Group	35		3.4	22.0
93½	52	Wla of Leather	59		1.6	
195	138	Wooide	162	+ 2	3.8	

SPIRITS, WINES & CIDERS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
683	491	Allied Domecq	504	- 1	5.6	13.6
459	358	Bulmer (HP)	402	+ 3	3.4	21.7
140	105	Burn Stewart	109	- 1	5.7	24.0
506	352	Grand Mett	376½	- 2	4.6	17.9
642	404	Guinness	422	- 1	3.9	13.9
457	353	Highland Dist	388		2.3	17.7
222	127	Macallan-Glen	203	- 1	0.7	53.2
710	365	Macdo Mrtn 'A'	640		1.9	27.5
614	515	Matthew Clark	545	- 2	4.3	25.8
250	61	Merydow W	83		3.8	
190	129	Taunton Cider	138	+ 4	6.1	10.7

SUPPORT SERVICES

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
187	73	ACT Group	107	+ ½	6.1	11.3
743	583	ADT	693			
46	34	Alphameric	35			26.7
140	43	Auto Sec	59½	+ ½		7.7
162	99	BET Ord	108½	+ ½	4.0	16.5
195	115	BNB Res	155		4.1	18.1
265	175	BPP	239		5.2	
186	130	BSM	154	+ 1	5.4	
3½	½	Black & Edg	3½	+ ½		
1100	500	Borland	687½			
226	105	Brit Data Mgt	118	- 1	5.7	8.3
79	57	Brooke Service	63	- 1	3.5	
117½	75	CRT Grp	84		5.0	20.6
239	150	Capita Group	151	- 1	2.7	
423	277½	Cashb Sec	311	+ 1	2.6	18.1
243	105	Comptr People	229	+ 3	1.7	
73	41	Corp Services	72	+ 2	3.5	
97	48	Coutts Cnsltg	54		3.5	
276	209	Davis Service	209		4.9	14.0
83	66	Dudley Jenkins	71		5.9	13.5
154	77	EW Fact	77		8.0	5.8
199½	135	El Data Prct	138		1.8	13.5
334	261	Hays	282½	+ ½	2.9	16.7
289	147	Hogg Robinson	149		6.1	9.6
39	18	Holmes Protectn	26			1.6
15	8	Int Cm & Data	10½			5.2
2696½	1556½	ISS B DKr	1868½	+ 12½	1.2	9.4
168	126	JBA Hldgs	164		1.8	16.7
414	227	Johnson Clean	253		5.3	10.2
145	91	Kalamazoo	91		4.7	10.3
298	221	Kewill Sys	268		3.5	9.8
35	17	Laser-Scan	18	- 1		
143½	68	LBMS	110	- 2		
8	4	Lep	4			
326	266	Lopex	321	- 2	2.1	17.1
364	65½	MDIS	82	- 1	9.5	
308	143	MMT Comp	187		3.5	14.8
216	97	MR Data Mngt	111	- 2	8.2	13.7
723	398	Macro 4	400		6.4	11.3
2078½	1156½	Manpower	2003½	- 75	0.2	
1330	688	Micro Focus	708	+ 8		22.1
178	101	Microgen	108		8.4	
548½	305	Misys	353	+ 2	3.0	11.0
207	141½	MITIE Grp	205		1.6	20.8
35	22	Nevo Group	27		8.9	10.4
82	17	OIS Intl	18		13.2	3.4
31	18	Ones	21		3.7	
85	60	P & P	82	+ 1	4.0	9.8
124	65	Michael Page	116	+ 1	2.5	28.5
143	90	Parity	115		1.9	
235	140	Pegasus	140		4.6	
115	82	Penna	95		5.3	
89½	60½	Proudfoot	65		6.7	11.1
415	266	RCO	266		7.5	9.6
48	27	Radius	35	- 1	3.8	12.0
183	73	Real Time	157		3.2	11.9
177	104	Reed Executive	133		0.9	
163	105	Reliance Sec	146		4.3	22.2
279	199½	Rentokil	232	- 3½	1.9	19.6
194	135	Ricardo Group	138		5.4	16.8
215	147½	Rode & Nolan	170		2.9	27.1
752	507	Sage Gp	750		1.8	16.4
392	243	Salvesen (C)	248		4.1	12.8
94	76	Sanderson Elec	86	- 1	4.1	12.5
17½	9	Select App	13			
438	310	Serco Gp	395		1.3	
307	243	Serco Grp	259		1.9	
180	136	Servisair	175		2.7	28.4
130	75	Shared Cmp	112			
130	85	Sketchley	85	- 1	4.7	14.3
254	167	Sun-Pics	180		6.8	
146	100	Ungate	120			
31	12½	Vislec	13	+ ½	3.8	7.1
65	37	WSP Hldgs	43	+ 1	5.6	
338	245	Wamer Hlwed	256		3.8	11.8

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
486	353½	BT	367	- 3½	5.8	15.2
543	350½	Cable Wireless	388	- 2	2.7	15.8
256	188	Filtronic Com	235		0.4	48.6
1543	1146	Securicor	1495		0.3	34.1
1069	785	Securicor 'A'	909	- 1	0.5	20.7
892	686	Security Serv	744	+ 4	1.1	20.8
188	167	Telewest	172	- 3		
221	157½	Vodafone	199	+ 4	1.9	25.7

TEXTILES & APPAREL

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
138	73	Albion	73		5.5	3.9
230	116	Alexdra W	119		6.1	12.7
617	450	Allied Text	452		3.8	13.9
169	72	Atkins	73		13.9	23.2
45	31	Autovagc	32			8.1
270	200	Baird (Wm)	204		5.5	17.4
71	36	Beckman (A)	42	- 2	10.7	20.6
290	226	Black (Peter)	232½		2.5	13.6
121	74	Bodport-Endry	113		3.3	15.5
226	171	Br Mohair	184		5.8	18.9
74	20	Campari	#25			
104	68	Cassidy Brost	68		5.1	8.7
183	163	Chamb Phnps	173		5.3	22.7
385	282	Claremont Ga	285	+ 3	3.3	15.8
187	166	Coats Viyella	171	- ½	6.0	14.8
593	410	Courtauld Text	435	+ 5	4.4	13.0
159½	92½	Dawson	100	+ ½	3.8	
143	97½	Dewhirst (IJ)	136	- ½	1.6	19.2
52	32	Dolan Heal	34		5.1	10.0
42	25	Drummond	30			13.5
26	13	Ellmd	18	- 2		
80	63	Faupel	64		9.6	10.4
340	260	FII	340		5.5	25.4
155	136	Fermonster	150		2.8	12.6
29	14	Foster (John)	18	- 1		
126	91	French (Thomas)	91		5.0	12.4
93	48	Gent SR	90		3.3	19.8
113	73	Haggas	87	+ 1	4.3	12.0
70½	10½	Hallstone	11	- ½	3.6	
33	21	Helene Plc	21	- ½	12.0	8.6
263	222	Hicking Pntcst	233		2.6	16.5
31	21½	Hollas	22		3.4	
91	53	Honeysuckle	54		6.9	8.3
124½	47	Horace Small	124	+ 4		15.8
211	173	Jacques Vert	207		3.2	8.6
73	55	Jerome (S)	57		1.8	7.2
388	268	Jones Stroud	327		3.4	15.9
202½	120	Lambert	121	- ½	7.6	
486	283	Lamont	293		5.4	9.7
340	247	Leeds	252	+ 1	3.1	13.7
88	61	Leslie Wisc Grt	69	- 1	7.7	
101	59	Lyles (S)	64		4.9	8.7
27	18½	Marling	25		3.3	
17	10	PEX	10			
266	148	Parkland	148		4.2	8.8
123	84	Pentland	108	+ 2	3.7	16.2
75	53	Pittards	86		3.3	
112	59	Readicut	61½	- 1	7.0	10.4
90	61	Renmore	62		5.6	6.6
96	38	Richards	50	+ 1	5.0	
78	42	SEET	66	+ 8		
180	75	Sherwood Gp	78		4.9	9.1
180	124	Shiloh	128		3.4	7.8
146	92	Sirdar	92	- 1	7.4	13.3
64	50	Stirling Gp	52		4.7	14.4
36	16	Strong & Fisher	17		7.8	
69	34	UK Safety	38		9.0	8.6
142	105	Usher (Frank)	135	- 1	7.4	7.9
143	42	Wensum	136		2.5	19.8
389	239	Yorklyde	258	- 2	3.0	11.8

TRANSPORT

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
83	58	Air London	64		6.8	12.2
777½	619½	All Nippon Air	671	+ 6	0.3	
313½	229	Assoc Br Portst	271	+ 5	2.5	17.8
541½	414	BAA	440	+ 15	2.7	16.8
142	103½	Badgerline	134		3.8	
496½	344	Br Airways	386	+ 1½	3.7	8.8
79	26	Central Tran R	26			
108	75	Clarkson (H)	101		2.2	25.4
179	140	Dart	145		3.4	14.8
592½	195	Eurotunnel Uts	364	- 2		
87	50	Fisher (James)	50			
508	405	Forth Ports	453	- 2	2.1	21.2
263	156	GRT Bus	254		1.9	19.7
193	113	Go-Ahead	180		2.8	19.2
222	135	Goode Durrant	213		3.7	16.7
155	124	IoM Steam	125		4.4	8.5
71	39	Jacobs (J)	55	+ 1	2.3	
111	70	Lon O'Seas Frct	71		6.6	1.7
534	358	Mersey Docks	371		3.5	
291	145	NFC	167		5.3	17.1
347	245	Nall Express	#317		3.5	
348	244	Ocean Group	270	+ 3	6.6	13.6
91	58	Ocean Wilson	74		5.4	10.7
743	549	P & O Dfd	568	+ 3	6.7	17.6
209	153	P & O 5.5%	180	+ 2	3.8	
102	84	Seacon	89		3.4	46.0
238	156	Stagecoach	217		2.4	21.6
131	83	TNT	86	- 1		
915	588	Tibbet & Britn	588	- 2	3.1	15.1
327	184	TDG	203		8.0	12.7
136	98	Ugland	117		2.6	
160	75	Utd Carriers	96	+ 6	6.8	

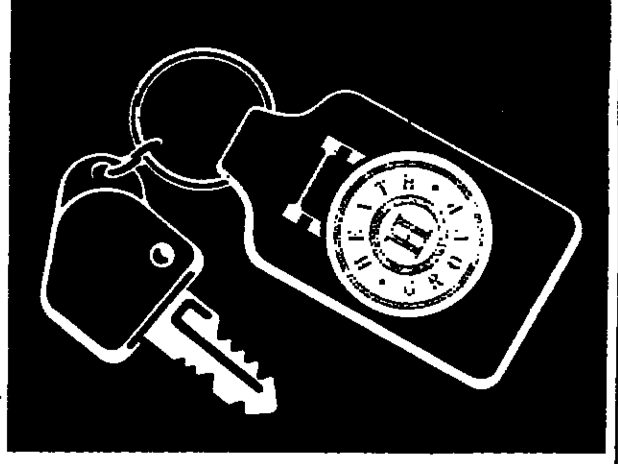
WATER

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
607	442	Anglian	461	+ 4	6.4	10.4
365	293	Mid Kent Hldgs	347		4.3	11.7
611	454	North West	515	+ 1	5.8	7.4
890	508	Northumbrian	810	- 1	4.0	8.7
645	457	Severn Trent	495	+ 5	5.9	8.2
2065	1525	South Staffs	2055		3.3	12.4
675	459	South West	482	+ 13	6.8	7.1
682	466	Southern	534	+ 7	5.6	7.7
611	434½	Thames	476	+ 1	6.1	7.2
744	546	Welsh	579	+ 12	5.7	6.4
379½	252	Wessex	267	+ 2	5.7	7.0
630	458	Yorkshire	504	+ 5	5.8	7.4

Source: Finstat

© UPM # Price at suspension. † Ex dividend. ‡ Ex scrip. ▲ Ex rights issue. ▼ Ex all. § Ex capital distribution. * Figures on report awaited. No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FT/SE 100 Index.

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BRITISH FUNDS

1994/95 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)						
103⅝	97⅝	Gas 3% 1990-95	99½		3.02	6.53
107⅞	101⅝	Exch 10¼% 1995	101⅝		10.12	6.51
113½	103⅛	Treas 12¾% 1995	103⅝		12.29	6.79
117⅝	105⅞	Treas 14% 1996	105⅝	+ ⅛	13.24	6.93
121⅞	108⅛	Treas 15¼% 1996	108⅝	+ ⅛	14.04	7.19
117⅝	106⅝	Exch 13¼% 1996	106⅝	+ ⅛	12.44	7.36
112⅞	103⅛	Conv 10% 1996	103⅝	+ ⅛	9.66	7.68
100⅝	96⅞	Treas 7% 1997	98⅝	+ ⅛	7.14	7.93
121⅞	108⅞	Treas 13¼% 1997	109⅞	+ ⅛	12.15	7.88
114⅞	104⅛	Exch 10½% 1997	104⅝	+ ⅛	10.04	7.88
110⅞	100⅛	Treas 8¾% 1997	101⅝	+ ⅛	8.62	8.07
131⅞	114⅞	Exch 15% 1997	115⅞	+ ⅛	12.98	8.18
114⅛	102⅞	Exch 9¾% 1998	103⅞	+ ⅛	9.40	8.27
108⅞	95⅞	Treas 7¼% 1998	97⅝ xd	+ ⅛	7.45	8.37
102	93⅞	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	95⅞	+ ⅛	7.04	8.28
131⅞	114⅞	Treas 14% 1998-01	115⅞	+ ⅛	12.14	8.42
140⅞	120⅞	Treas 15½% 1998	121⅞ xd	+ ⅛	12.75	8.33
125⅞	109⅞	Exch 12% 1998	111⅛	+ ⅛	10.80	8.43
118⅞	100⅞	Treas 9½% 1999	103⅞	+ ⅛	9.17	8.40
139⅞	111⅞	Exch 12¼% 1999	112⅞ xd	+ ⅛	10.87	8.48
121⅞	105⅞	Treas 10½% 1999	107⅛	+ ⅛	9.81	8.47
101⅞	89⅞	Treas 6% 1999	91⅞	+ ⅛	6.57	8.41
121⅞	104⅞	Conv 10¼% 1999	106⅞	+ ⅛	9.62	8.54
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)						
116⅞	99⅞	Conv 9% 2000	102⅞	+ ⅛	8.80	8.45
99⅞	96	Treas 8% 2000	98⅞	+ ⅛	8.15	8.41
136⅞	116⅞	Treas 13% 2000	118⅞	+ ⅛	10.96	8.56
122⅞	103⅞	Treas 10% 2001	106⅞	+ ⅛	9.39	8.60
106⅞	89⅞	Treas 7% 2001	92⅞	+ ⅛	7.58	8.53
123⅞	102⅞	Treas 9¾% 2002	106⅞	+ ⅛	9.20	8.64
113⅞	92⅞	Treas 8% 2003	96⅞	+ ⅛	8.28	8.58
127⅞	104⅞	Treas 10% 2003	107⅞	+ ⅛	9.38	8.65
139⅞	109⅞	Treas 11½% 2001-04	112⅞ xd	+ ⅛	10.20	8.74
89⅞	69⅞	Fund 3½% 1999-04	75⅞	+ ⅛	4.66	7.34
125⅞	101⅞	Conv 9½% 2004	105⅞	+ ⅛	8.99	8.61
105⅞	84⅞	Treas 6¾% 2004	88⅞	+ ⅛	7.63	8.51
100⅞	97	Treas 8½% 2005	99⅞	+ ⅛	8.58	8.49
125½	102⅞	Conv 9½% 2005	106⅞ xd	+ ⅛	8.96	8.58
143⅞	118⅞	Treas 12½% 2003-05	121⅞	+ ⅛	10.25	8.82
112⅞	90⅞	Treas 7¾% 2006	94⅞	+ ⅛	8.21	8.50
111⅞	91⅞	Treas 8% 2002-06	96⅞ xd	+ ⅛	8.31	8.85
130⅞	112⅞	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	116⅞	+ ⅛	10.11	8.84
119⅞	99⅞	Treas 8½% 2007	98⅞	+ ⅛	8.50	8.51
151⅞	126⅞	Treas 13½% 2004-08	128⅞ xd	+ ⅛	10.50	8.83
124⅞	99⅞	Treas 9% 2008	104	+ ⅛	8.65	8.50
115⅞	91⅞	Treas 8% 2009	96⅞	+ ⅛	8.32	8.49
LONGS (over 15 years)						
98⅞	77⅞	Treas 6¼% 2010	81⅞	+ ⅛	7.66	8.38
126⅞	100⅞	Conv 9% 2011	104⅞	+ ⅛	8.61	8.48
127⅞	100⅞	Treas 9% 2012	104⅞	+ ⅛	8.59	8.47
93⅞	71⅞	Treas 5½% 2008-12	74⅞	+ ⅛	7.34	8.24
117⅞	92	Treas 8% 2013	96⅞	+ ⅛	8.33	8.42
114⅞	89⅞	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	93⅞	+ ⅛	8.29	8.43
128⅞	99⅞	Treas 8¾% 2017	103⅞	+ ⅛	8.44	8.39
159⅞	126⅞	Exch 12% 2013-17	131	+ ⅛	9.16	8.63
UNDATED						
54⅞	39⅞	War Ln 3½%	41⅞	+ ⅛	8.37	
37⅞	27⅞	Treas 2½%	29⅞		8.58	
INDEX-LINKED						
204⅞	197⅞	Treas IL 2% 1996	204⅞	+ ⅛	1.97	3.57
113⅞	106⅞	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	107⅞	+ ⅛	2.85	3.71
176⅞	163⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2001	167⅞	+ ⅛	3.44	3.86
173⅞	159⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2003	162⅞	+ ⅛	3.54	3.87
118⅞	107⅞	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	109⅞ xd	+ ⅛	3.54	3.85
184⅞	165⅞	Treas IL 2% 2006	170⅞	+ ⅛	3.62	3.86
160⅞	149⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2009	153⅞	+ ⅛	3.68	3.87
175⅞	154⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2011	159	+ ⅛	3.69	3.86
146⅞	128⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2013	130⅞	+ ⅛	3.70	3.87
157⅞	134⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2016	139⅞	+ ⅛	3.72	3.88
152⅞	128⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2020	133⅞	+ ⅛	3.75	3.89
129⅞	106⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2024	111	+ ⅛	3.74	3.87
128⅞	105⅞	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	110	+ ⅛	3.77	3.89

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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 01895 259 783				
Endeavour Amer	161.20	170.60	+ 1.00	0.24
Endeavour Equity	227.70	242.20	+ 2.50	2.17
Endeavour Euro	195.10	206.40	+ 2.30	0.60
Endeavour Expt Bal	105.20	109.00	- 2.00	2.83
Endeavour Gilt	73.06	75.34	+ 0.43	5.58
Endeavour Japan	152.20	161.00	+ 2.20	
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS 01203 553 231				
General Acc	510.70	543.30†		3.06
General Inc	445.20	473.70†		3.06
UK Growth Acc	343.70	365.70		3.07
UK Growth Inc	235.20	250.30		3.07
Higher Inc Acc	634.70	675.30		4.31
Higher Inc Inc	366.80	390.30		4.31
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	184.30	194.60†		6.06
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	87.32	92.23†		6.06
Nth America	265.70	282.70	..	
Far East	320.10	340.60		0.38
Europe	261.70	278.50†		0.95
Brit Excell	68.40	72.77		3.25
Brit Fndmtls Acc	97.29	103.50†		5.08
Brit Fndmtls Inc	69.74	74.20†		5.08
Global Opps	80.58	85.73		0.30
Balanced Acc	51.75	55.06		3.26
Balanced Inc	50.49	53.72		3.26
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS 0345 717 373				
High Income				
Gilts & Fixed Int	125.80	133.50†	+ 0.70	7.99
High Inc Equity	152.60	163.20	+ 1.50	4.82
Worldwide Bond	269.10	285.70†	+ 1.90	5.32
Capital Growth				
American Growth	278.80	296.40	+ 1.10	.81
Asian Pacific	289.40	307.90	+ 4.10	
Assets & Earnings	246.10	261.80	+ 2.80	3.06
Comdty & Energy	95.03	101.10†	+ 0.20	.13
Euro Capital Inc	128.30	137.20	+ 2.30	.71
(Accum Units)	137.00	146.50	+ 2.50	.70
General	217.90	231.80†	+ 2.40	2.35
Japan	112.40	120.20	+ 2.30	..
Mactrmed	132.50	141.70	- 1.60	1.84
UK Growth Dist	108.70	116.30	+ 0.20	3.13
US Emerging Cos	129.30	138.30	- 0.50	
Income & Growth	365.10	388.40	- 4.00	3.22
Ethical	63.68	67.74	+ 0.58	3.17
International	106.10	112.90	+ 1.80	1.03
Dividend & Growth	56.67	60.61	+ 0.56	4.64
Global Gwth & Sec	66.70	71.13	+ 0.19	2.54
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0131 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	£16.34	£16.68		
ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0800 833 580				
Amer Inc & Growth	43.72	46.39	+ 0.23	0.68
Cash	58.10	58.10†	+ 0.01	5.84
Emerging Mkts	61.11	64.74	+ 0.51	0.06
European	106.50	111.20†	+ 0.90	
Exempt	982.20	971.90	+ 5.00	1.91
Extra Income #	43.61	46.72†	+ 0.15	6.45
Far East Emg Ecn	104.90	111.20	+ 0.60	0.56
Fixed Interest #	21.66	22.73†	+ 0.02	8.10
Fund Inv Tst	153.30	161.30	+ 0.90	1.04
Japan	169.30	177.70	+ 3.30	..
Latin American	42.80	44.92	+ 1.69	1.08
Pacific	67.09	70.72	+ 0.61	0.38
Property Share	59.10	62.03	- 0.10	2.30
UK Emerging Cos	59.17	62.11	+ 0.04	1.99
UK Growth	41.76	44.35	+ 0.24	2.65
Aber World Port #	68.50	69.60	+ 0.56	2.35
Ethical	59.46	62.41	+ 0.25	2.82
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	48.79	48.79†	+ 0.20	7.89
AEGON UNIT TRUSTS LTD 0131 549 3232				
British Growth	66.11	70.33†	+ 0.74	3.00
British Income	76.84	81.75†	+ 0.83	3.79
Select Portfolio	80.35	85.48†	+ 0.12	..
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD 01452 305 958				
Amity Income	70.48	74.78†	- 0.13	2.81
Income Builder Inc	64.43	68.54	- 0.44	3.03
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC IFA dlg: 01793 610 366 Client dlg: 01793 514 514				
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	216.80	231.70	- 0.20	3.37
Capital	379.50	405.60	+ 0.40	2.04
Balanced	636.30	680.20†	+ 0.90	2.92
Accumulator	£11.78	£12.59	+ 1.00	3.22
Income Trusts				
American Income	48.59	49.89†	- 0.44	3.57
High Income	365.00	390.10†	+ 0.30	3.96
Equity Income	207.10	221.30		3.76
High Yield	224.50	239.90	+ 0.20	3.82
Govt Securities	32.88	34.72†	+ 0.14	6.11
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	142.00	151.70†	- 2.10	0.48
European Growth	32.82	34.98	+ 0.20	0.01
International	148.50	158.70†	+ 3.80	0.21
Japan	187.30	199.60†	+ 3.30	0.01
Pacific	350.40	374.50	+ 5.30	0.01
Secs of America	416.70	443.40†	- 3.20	0.52
Wwide Asset Val	44.83	47.92	+ 0.27	0.25
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	489.20	522.90†	+ 1.90	2.44
Conv & Gilt	40.43	43.21†	+ 0.02	5.37
Smaller Cos	155.30	166.00	- 0.10	1.34
2nd Smaller Cos	147.10	157.20†	- 0.20	1.55
Recovery	127.80	136.60	+ 0.50	1.92
Met Min & Cmdy	137.60	147.00	- 0.89	0.81
Oseas Earnings	328.50	351.10†		1.92
Technology	158.60	169.50	+ 0.30	0.01
UK Special Sits	422.40	451.50†	+ 2.10	1.82
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 01293 526 911				
Cotrold Out Pens	94.86	98.55	...	3.04
Fenmoto Penal Pens	59.57	61.69		
BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0171 600 0033				
Capital	67.47	71.78	+ 0.27	1.95
International	60.46	64.32	+ 2.28	..
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD 0131 222 4242				
America	261.50	283.30	- 0.80	..
Bond	110.60	116.40	+ 1.50	7.16
Brit Smlr Cos	91.83	97.48	+ 0.42	1.91
Conv & Gen #	81.28	85.19†	+ 0.23	6.04
Europe	209.80	222.80	+ 0.50	0.63
Euro Smlr Cos	95.11	101.40	- 0.20	0.80
Income Gwth	318.80	339.20†	+ 0.80	4.67
Japan	284.90	302.40	+ 5.40	..
Latin American	54.41	57.88	+ 2.48	..
Pacific	95.88	102.00	+ 1.30	1.53
UK Smlr Cos	49.21	52.35	- 0.02	1.45
Japan Fd	633.70	652.90†	+ 6.80	..
Mngd Fd	164.50	175.00	+ 1.50	3.22
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD 0171 489 8673				
Brit & Oseas	265.40	279.40	...	1.33
Capital Gwth	104.10	109.60	...	2.45
Wwide Opps	168.60	177.50	...	0.45
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD 0181 534 5544				
Balanced Trusts				
Bcr Inv Fd Inc	324.50	338.00	+ 3.10	3.23
European Bd Inc	87.43	90.56	+ 0.51	7.91
Exempt	69.38	74.22	+ 0.75	4.50
Financial	70.14	75.01	+ 0.62	2.99
500 0	409.30	437.80†	+ 1.80	2.76
General	257.20	275.60	+ 2.80	2.83
Property	243.20	264.30		5.57
Trustee	168.50	181.30	+ 1.20	2.63
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.80	100.80	..	5.46
Extra Income	110.80	118.60	+ 0.90	4.38
Gilt & Fxd Int	56.65	57.51†	+ 0.33	8.66
Income	483.90	517.60	+ 4.20	4.41
Income Builder	57.56	61.23†	+ 0.37	5.33
Intl Income	58.38	62.08	+ 0.52	3.98
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	110.30	117.60†	+ 1.40	2.66
Leisure	113.70	121.60	+ 1.50	1.69
Recovery	387.20	414.10	+ 3.80	3.03
Smllr Cos Inc	41.06	44.03	+ 0.03	2.15
Special Sits	264.70	283.10	+ 2.20	1.76
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	124.20	131.80	+ 0.60	0.85
Aust Acc	227.40	241.90	+ 2.90	2.34
Aust Inc	139.90	148.80	+ 1.80	2.34
Euro Gwth Inc	141.60	150.20	+ 2.30	1.03
(Accum Units)	151.50	160.70	+ 2.40	1.03
Japan & Gen Inc	161.70	171.20†	+ 3.0	
(Accum Units)	163.60	173.20	+ 3.0	..
Japan Spec Sits	74.38	78.80	+ 1.34	
Unv Tech Inc	75.32	80.04	+ 0.61	0.08
Worldwide	157.40	167.10	+ 2.10	1.0
BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD 0171 214 1004				
American Growth	89.88	95.78	+ 0.32	
Amer Smllr Cos	126.40	135.20	+ 0.70	..
Convertibles	51.66	56.00	+ 0.11	5.70
Eastern	245.60	265.40	+ 5.20	0.38
Equity Income	81.78	88.29	+ 0.60	4.90
European Growth	284.10	301.20	+ 3.90	0.80
Europe	213.40	227.30	+ 2.00	0.20
German Growth	72.75	77.13	+ 0.72	0.50
Global Bond	61.60	64.88	+ 0.35	8.20
Global Growth	117.70	125.60	+ 1.70	..
Japan Growth	181.00	192.80	+ 2.40	..
Japan Sunrise	151.30	160.80	+ 0.30	..
Korea Trust	75.76	83.51	+ 0.98	
Portfolio	120.90	129.50†	+ 0.80	1.80
(Accum Units)	222.40	238.30	+ 1.40	1.80
UK Growth	77.63	83.29	+ 0.39	2.20
UK Smaller Cos	75.37	82.26	+ 0.03	1.80
Select Managers	70.11	75.69	+ 0.04	1.00
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD 0171 250 3300				
Ind Gwth Port Inc	68.45	72.79†		
Special Oppor Inc	50.12	53.32†	..	
BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD 0141 223 6020				
Capital	99.32	105.11	+ 1.11	1.97
Balanced Growth	111.65	118.15	+ 1.25	1.97
(Accum Units)	94.00	99.47	+ 0.09	1.28
Smaller Cos	41.93	44.37	+ 0.41	4.76
Higher Yield #	70.57	74.68†	- 1.14	...
American Gth Inc	123.84	131.05†	+ 1.83	..
European Growth	126.68	133.63	+ 1.66	
(Accum Units)	26.22	27.17	+ 0.14	8.29
Global Bond Inc #	38.97	41.22†	+ 0.24	1.54
Mngd Ptflio Inc	39.73	42.02	+ 0.45	1.54
(Accum Units)	105.73	111.89	+ 1.37	
Intl Spec Opps	113.75	120.37	+ 1.73	..
Pacific Gth				
Formerly LAS				
UK General #	70.13	74.21	- 0.76	3.73
(Accum Units) #	71.81	75.99	- 0.78	3.73
Japan	56.09	59.35†	+ 0.88	
Gilt & Fixed Int #	93.25	95.16†	+ 0.59	7.99
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0171 480 7216				
Short Dated Gilt	62.17	62.99†	+ 0.29	6.50
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD 0161 837 5060				
Envirec	146.50	155.90	+ 0.90	1.86
UK Growth	156.80	166.90†	+ 1.70	2.54
UK Income	125.60	133.76	+ 0.90	4.68
CANADA LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD 01707 651 122				
Can Gen Dist	175.50	186.00	+ 1.80	2.13
-do- Income Dist	102.60	108.70	- 0.60	4.60
(Accum Units)	305.60	320.20	+ 1.90	4.60
Gilt & Fxd Int	38.87	41.20†	- 0.30	6.60
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD 0161 236 5685 Enq 0161 236 5685 Dlg 0161 236 5362				
American & Gen	149.20	159.80†	- 1.20	..
European Inc	73.62	78.12	- 0.76	0.59
Smaller Cos (4-1)	74.57	79.33†	- 0.10	2.24
Growth	391.70	416.60†	- 5.00	2.71
Income & Growth	376.90	401.00†	- 3.10	4.25
(Accum Units)	537.90	572.30	- 4.50	4.27
Japan & Gen	65.60	70.69†	- 1.67	
Market Portfolio	695.07	698.68	- 87.00	2.25
(Accum Units)	£115.42	£117.73	- £1.04	2.25
Special Sit	30.51	36.39	- 1.27	2.64
High Yield	£12.29	£12.68	- 11.00	4.72
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 0171 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	78.53	83.77	- 0.25	2.63
American Portfolio	89.42	95.24	- 0.35	1.22
European Portfolio	91.69	97.54	- 0.79	0.82
Japanese Portfolio	60.60	64.35†	- 1.29	
Pacific Portfolio	126.96	135.41	- 0.66	0.96
UK Inc & Growth	71.35	76.54	- 0.12	3.49
Lwy & Bond	51.85	52.47	- 0.17	7.35

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG 0171 588 1815				
Inv Fund	636.50	638.60	...	4.87
Fxd Int Sec	145.85	146.00		9.93
CENTURY UNIT TRUSTS LTD 0171 282 5000				
UK General Tst	59.50	63.29	+ 0.44	3.14
COIF-CHARITIES OFFICIAL INV FD 0171 588 1815				
Inc	625.05	625.22		4.97
Accum	£26.60	£26.98		
Fixed Int Inc	119.00	119.16		9.73
Fixed Int Acc	187.15	187.60	..	
CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD 0171 837 7667				
Intl Growth	104.12	113.50	..	
UK Income	101.29	109.61	...	5.47
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD 0171 407 5966				
Beckman Intl	76.16	80.69	+ 3.46	1.50
Beck Blu-Tech	25.75	28.64		
Accum Ethical Tst	138.80	148.11	.	0.74
City Fin Assets	63.66	67.72		1.33
City Fin America	84.33	88.27	+ 4.83	
City Fin Intl	70.67	74.39	+ 2.04	0.88
City Fin Japan	149.02	156.86	+ 1.12	
Friars Hse Cap	253.47	274.20		1.79
Friars Hse Inc	181.82	197.50		4.27
Buckley Wrld Grth	114.65	121.97†	+ 3.62	0.10
Fairmount Cap Gth	125.60	133.62		
Fairmount Intl	136.56	145.28		
City Fin Ptflo Inc	51.31	54.58		4.51
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	50.23	53.29	+ 0.48	
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD 0800 373 393				
American Gwth	56.77	60.72	+ 0.54	..
Atlas Mngd Gwth	34.25	36.63	+ 0.56	0.54
Dragon Growth	61.02	65.26	+ 0.86	0.56
Emerg High Inc	76.73	81.83†	+ 0.53	4.41
(Accum Units)	103.97	110.61	+ 0.72	4.41
European Emm	48.33	51.41	+ 0.80	1.11
Evergreen	26.68	28.54	+ 0.78	..
General Equity	78.67	83.47	+ 0.66	3.01
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	24.10	25.32	+ 0.20	8.30
Japan Growth	47.91	51.24	+ 1.81	
Pedigree Gwth	47.42	50.45	+ 0.32	2.84
Ped Sm Cos Inc	28.17	29.87	+ 0.62	1.48
(Accum Units)	29.27	31.14	+ 0.62	1.48
Retirement Inc #	23.97	25.50	+ 0.13	6.27
Special Sits	35.13	37.37	+ 0.16	2.25
UK & Overseas	44.70	47.55	+ 0.41	1.48
COLONIAL MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD 01634 888 000				
Capital	64.31	68.17†	+ 0.61	2.33
Income	58.05	61.53†	+ 0.50	4.29
COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MGMT INTL LTD 0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	148.28	157.74	+ 1.36	6.06
Fixed & Convertible	38.16	40.60	+ 0.14	7.57
Monthly Inc Plus	46.12	49.06	+ 0.13	9.13
Preference Share	44.03	46.84	- 0.89	7.88
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	113.80	120.85	+ 0.75	7.71
Managed Fund	64.28	68.36	+ 0.68	3.08
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	35.76	38.04	+ 0.05	1.78
(Accum Units)	40.91	43.52	+ 0.06	1.78
UK & General	73.97	78.69	+ 0.79	2.82
(Accum Units)	92.58	98.50	+ 1.00	2.82
UK Growth	134.02	142.57	+ 1.26	2.39
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	177.95	189.31	+ 1.96	0.28
Far Eastern Grth	117.73	125.24	+ 2.04	
Global Bond	78.22	83.13	+ 0.58	6.09
Japan Growth	111.29	118.39	+ 2.13	..
North Amer Grth	165.48	176.02	+ 1.24	..
Oriental Growth	68.61	72.99	+ 0.87	...
Worldwide Growth	81.69	85.63	+ 0.68	0.08
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	93.21	93.21	+ 0.01	6.03
Homeowner Fund	73.66	78.36†	+ 0.69	1.93
Quilter Fund	119.14	126.74†	+ 0.95	2.55
CONFEDERATION FUNDS MGMT LTD 01438 744 840				
Growth Inc	54.41	57.88	+ 0.42	3.40
(Accum Units)	58.92	62.68	+ 0.48	3.40
High Income	32.10	34.14	+ 0.26	5.00
Japan	33.69	35.84	+ 0.66	
Smaller Cos Inc	28.29	30.09	+ 0.11	2.80
Smaller Cos	29.96	31.87	+ 0.12	2.80
North American	31.83	33.86	+ 0.13	0.70
European	35.36	37.63	+ 0.45	0.80
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD 0171 407 5966				
Consistent UT	28.27	30.37†	..	3.65
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD 0800 526 358				
Growth	132.00	140.50	+ 0.60	2.30
Income	62.99	67.02†	- 0.44	5.35
European	58.02	61.73	+ 0.42	0.99
Recovery	143.00	152.30	- 2.00	2.40
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD 0171 283 9494				
Equity Dist	763.80	776.80		3.86
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD 01277 690 370				
Fellowship Tst	69.60	74.04	+ 0.37	1.33
Income #	223.80	238.00	+ 1.60	4.89
(Accum Units) #	551.10	586.20	- 4.00	4.89
Smaller Cos	148.00	157.40	- 0.10	0.62
(Accum Units)	180.60	192.30	- 0.10	0.62
Inv Portfolio	74.31	79.05†	+ 0.84	1.51
High Inc Port #	64.49	68.60	- 0.64	5.06
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD 0171 410 6177				
Euro Small Cos	£15.01	£15.37		
Japan Small Cos	£11.60	£11.83		
UK Small Cos	£16.52	£17.27		
US Small Cos	£15.31	£15.60		
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS 0171 377 8819				
Disc Inc	188.80	199.70		3.20
DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0131 315 2500				
European Gwth	262.10	277.10	+ 2.90	1.01
New Asia	193.80	206.50	- 2.40	0.16
Japan Growth	109.70	116.90	- 2.00	
Jap Smlr Co	437.40	465.10	- 0.20	..
Nth Amer	260.60	276.20	+ 0.90	0.86
Stwrd Asia Pac Mt	110.08	116.40	+ 1.30	0.39
UK Inc & Grth	198.80	212.40	+ 1.70	3.13
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD 01242 577 555				
UK Balanced Inc	131.50	139.90	+ 1.40	1.91
UK High Inc Inc	140.30	149.30	+ 1.40	4.82
(Accum Units)	179.70	191.20	+ 1.90	4.82
UK Pref & F I Inc	56.21	59.66	+ 0.37	5.25
Environmtl Opps	79.84	84.94	+ 0.87	1.10
UK Smllr Cos #	46.97	49.97	+ 0.07	
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0345 080 526				
American	119.60	127.00	+ 0.70	1.38
Convertibles #	19.35	20.56†	+ 0.10	6.81
Equity Income #	116.30	123.60†	+ 0.70	4.29
Eurofund	43.13	45.76	+ 0.12	0.44
Financial	40.80	43.35	- 0.14	1.73
Growth & Inc #	216.30	229.80	- 1.70	3.35
High Dist #	143.50	152.50	+ 1.10	4.92
International	354.70	376.90	- 5.30	0.13
Intl Cap Inc	87.59	93.58	- 0.85	2.94
Latin American	23.97	25.47	- 1.99	..
Pacific	71.29	75.75	+ 1.07	..
Preference Share	20.66	21.95	- 0.07	7.52
Tokyo	205.70	218.60	+ 4.50	
UK Smaller Cos	208.50	221.50	+ 0.30	1.24
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD 0171 242 0242				
Elcon Trust	194.16	207.24	- 3.52	1.04
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD 0171 373 7281				
Endurance Fd	184.10	195.80		1.06
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 01296 431 480				
European	75.86	79.85	+ 0.40	1.73
Ethical Tst	40.75	42.89	+ 0.05	1.45
Far Eastern	274.60	289.05	- 2.09	2.13
High Income	121.74	128.15	- 0.11	5.12
Intl Growth	109.16	114.90†	- 0.32	1.38
North American	107.12	112.76	- 0.50	1.43
Pelican	108.65	114.37	+ 0.32	3.34
Smaller Cos	61.91	65.17	- 0.07	3.02
Special Sits	81.12	85.39	+ 0.25	2.65
Tst of Inv Tsts	167.84	176.67†	+ 0.47	1.70
EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD 0171 407 5966				
Smaller Cos Inc	186.11	193.86	- 0.24	1.51
Smaller Cos Acc	325.64	339.21	- 0.42	1.51
Recovery	46.90	48.85	+ 0.05	1.45
Recovery Acc	47.40	49.37	+ 0.05	1.45
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD 01392 412 144				
Balanced	108.03	114.93	+ 0.41	6.05
Capital Growth	74.80	80.21	- 0.43	..
Fd of Inv Tsts	40.77	43.49	+ 1.60	0.67
High Income #	39.79	42.64		10.79
Manual	47.10	51.50†	+ 0.25	..
Zero Preference	36.55	38.78	- 0.08	
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD 01273 220 707				
Family Asset Tst	72.21	76.81	+ 0.520	2.96
Family Income Tst	42.10	42.10	+ 0.450	6.86
Family Trust	79.01	84.04	+ 0.490	1.58
United Charities	244.60	260.10	+ 1.700	4.22
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD Callfree: Private Clients: 0800 414 161				
Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00	.	5.60
Bond Funds				
Gilt & Fxd Int	26.42	26.52†	- 0.15	7.64
Intl Bond	28.31	29.38	- 0.15	5.21
Income Funds				
High Income	22.74	23.93†	- 0.05	5.31
Income Plus	101.60	108.10†	- 0.90	4.29
Amer Eq Inc	45.76	48.43	- 0.18	1.97
European Income	39.92	42.45†	+ 0.29	1.67
Far East Inc	80.88	84.74	- 0.63	2.43
Global Convertible	21.58	23.02	- 0.09	3.64
UK Div Grth	22.59	24.02†	+ 0.12	2.00
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	54.63	58.28	+ 0.74	...
American	236.10	250.00	+ 0.89	..
Amer Spec Sits	114.00	121.60	+ 0.90	..
Japan Smaller Cos	35.43	37.80†	+ 0.22	
European	160.30	170.50	+ 1.70	...
European Opps	59.49	63.28	+ 0.63	
Global Priv	22.98	24.55	+ 0.36	0.94
UK Growth	84.58	89.94	+ 0.56	
Growth & Inc	130.80	139.10	+ 0.80	2.34
Intl PEP	34.67	36.87	+ 0.27	
Japan Spec Sits	85.92	91.45	+ 1.64	
Japan	178.40	189.90	+ 3.00	
Managed Intl	259.70	276.40†	+ 2.40	
Moneybuilder	49.54	52.68	+ 0.41	
Recovery	44.79	47.63	+ 0.30	
South E Asia	140.10	148.50	+ 3.40	..
Special Sits	472.80	502.50	+ 2.00	
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	108.55	108.55	+ 0.02	5.60
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD 0171 814 2700				
Balanced #	126.80	129.70†	- 2.70	1.98
Inc Ptolio #	76.61	81.22†	- 0.77	4.12
Cap Ptolio	132.40	134.80	+ 1.0	1.33
General Opps	114.60	116.80	+ 3.20	3.59
Growth Inc	28.28	28.89	- 0.90	1.86
Private Portfolio	377.00	385.50†	+ 12.90	1.30
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT Enq 0171 454 1434 Dlg 01277 261 010				
Hypo Foreign & Colonial				
European	106.60	112.80	- 1.20	0.37
Emrg Asian	150.00	164.70	+ 1.70	
High Income	20.53	21.79†	- 0.10	10.33
Oseas Income	84.31	90.07	- 1.94	3.49
UK Growth	100.20	107.20	- 0.70	2.01
UK Income	99.82	106.60	+ 0.70	3.96
US Smaller Cos	294.00	314.40	+ 1.30	0.15

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
FOSTER & BRAITHWAITE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD 0171 407 5966				
High Inc Eqty	44.92	47.23	+ 0.43	3.44
-do- Inv Tst Inc	69.0	72.55†	+ 0.13	4.05
Intl Growth	52.90	56.14		
Investment Trust	82.68	86.94†	+ 0.21	
UK Smaller Cos	76.40	80.34	+ 0.31	1.02
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD 0171 374 4100				
American Growth	55.03	58.80†	+ 0.35	
(Accum Units)	55.03	58.80†	+ 0.35	..
Amer Smllr Cos	470.50	503.20	+ 3.90	..
(Accum Units)	480.70	514.10	+ 4.00	
Capital Tst	281.80	299.50	+ 0.39	1.61
(Accum Units)	402.30	427.70	+ 0.50	1.61
Contl Smllr Cos	57.62	61.69	+ 0.07	0.50
(Accum Units)	60.59	64.86	+ 0.07	0.58
Convertible	118.20	125.70	+ 0.80	5.87
(Accum Units)	238.70	253.90	+ 1.10	5.87
Emerging Markets	60.78	64.93	+ 1.15	..
(Accum Units)	60.83	64.98	+ 1.14	..
European	113.10	119.80	+ 1.30	0.14
(Accum Units)	118.50	125.50	+ 1.20	0.14
Extra Income	308.30	327.90†	+ 1.90	4.10
(Accum Units)	463.10	492.50†	+ 2.80	4.10
Financial	115.70	124.70	- 0.40	0.30
(Accum Units)	121.90	131.30	- 0.40	0.30
Gilt Trust	61.68	63.80	+ 0.47	6.37
(Accum Units)	66.13	68.82	+ 0.68	6.37
Health Fund Inc	132.30	141.30	- 0.60	
(Accum Units)	132.30	141.30	+ 0.60	
Income & Growth	176.90	188.20	+ 1.20	3.32
(Accum Units)	267.10	284.10	+ 1.60	3.32
Intl Growth	341.80	365.70	+ 4.70	..
(Accum Units)	379.30	406.10	+ 5.20	
Japan & Gen	159.90	170.90†	+ 2.30	
(Accum Units)	161.50	172.60†	+ 2.30	..
Monthly Inc	149.90	159.40†	+ 0.90	4.20
Managed Port Inc	95.90	102.00		1.50
(Accum Units)	102.70	109.10		1.50
Quarterly Income	49.48	52.63†	+ 0.25	4.83
(Accum Units)	53.11	56.49	+ 0.27	4.83
Recovery	318.50	340.50†	+ 1.70	0.13
(Accum Units)	374.90	400.80†	+ 2.00	0.13
UK Growth	50.82	54.16	+ 0.48	2.79
(Accum Units)	52.35	56.02	+ 0.49	2.79
FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS Dealing 01705 881330 Enq 01705 881340				
FP Am Smllr Cos	109.40	117.00	+ 1.10	0.0
FP Asian Growth	232.00	246.70	+ 2.70	0.0
FP Equity Dist	358.30	381.10	+ 3.90	2.92
-do- Accum	756.70	804.90	+ 8.10	2.92
FP Euro Gth Dist	138.80	147.60†	+ 1.80	0.61
-do- Accum	144.70	153.90†	+ 1.90	0.61
FP Fixed Int Dist	127.60	134.80†	+ 0.90	7.43
-do- Accum	236.98	250.30†	+ 1.80	7.43
FP Intl Bond	55.15	58.32	+ 0.37	6.61
FP Intl Gth Dist	86.74	92.27	+ 1.42	0.75
-do- Accum	90.81	96.60	+ 1.48	0.75
FP Nth Amer Dist	182.60	193.40	+ 1.70	1.16
-do- Accum	201.20	213.10	+ 1.90	1.16
FP Pac Basin Dist	286.90	305.20	+ 4.40	0.27
-do- Accum	292.80	311.40	+ 4.50	0.27
FP Income	50.49	53.95	+ 0.47	5.41
(Accum Units)	163.40	174.20	+ 1.40	5.41
FP Jap Smllr Cos	314.00	334.90	+ 2.30	0.0
FP Monthly Dist	67.21	71.72†	+ 0.54	6.19
FP Stlg Deposit	100.60	100.60		6.25
FP Tokyo	81.54	86.97	+ 1.61	0.0
FP UK Focus	34.14	36.70	+ 0.25	2.06
FP UK Growth	159.80	170.20	+ 1.10	2.99
(Accum Units)	309.00	329.60	+ 2.10	2.99
Stewardship Dist	308.30	327.90	+ 1.90	2.16
-do- Accum	377.00	401.00	+ 2.30	2.16
Stwdshp Inc Dist	66.09	70.30†	+ 0.37	3.90
-do- Accum	85.72	91.19†	+ 0.48	3.90
N Am Stshp Dist	93.18	99.12	+ 0.32	0.79
-do- Accum	98.99	105.30	+ 0.30	0.79
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital Gwth Acc	101.00	107.40	- 0.30	1.04
Open Cap Gth Acc	101.60	108.00	- 0.20	0.28
Cap Gth Inc Inc	97.48	103.70†	- 0.20	2.50
Cap Gth Inc Acc	99.83	106.20	- 0.10	2.50
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ic	99.35	105.70†	- 0.10	3.15
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ac	102.00	108.50	- 0.10	3.15
NM Unit Trusts				
American	44.70	47.55	+ 0.41	1.16
Australian	298.30	320.00	+ 3.30	0.0
European	193.40	205.70	+ 2.50	0.75
(Accum Units)	209.20	222.50	+ 2.70	0.75
Gold	45.25	48.65	+ 0.81	0.0
Intl	30.14	32.16†	- 0.38	0.97
(Accum Units)	43.70	46.63	- 0.54	0.97
GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0345 581 106/7				
GANDA	221.80	234.80	+ 2.40	2.63
Cash	49.50	50.24†		5.30
Growth Portfolio	72.05	76.39	+ 1.25	1.07
Income Portfolio	59.94	63.39†	+ 0.76	4.87
GEM DOLPHIN INV MGRS LTD 0171 236 6441				
Special Sits	165.40	176.90	- 1.20	1.59
Dividend	82.81	88.57†	+ 1.0	3.85
Int Gth & Inc	207.30	221.70	- 2.30	3.28
UK & Gen	40.93	43.78†	+ 0.94	2.54
Fund of Funds	58.52	62.59	- 0.14	.
GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD 0171 710 4567 Dealing 0171 626 9431				
Amer Spec Sits	176.60	188.90	- 1.00	
European	525.10	560.50†	- 5.10	0.36
Far East & Gen	231.10	247.20	+ 1.00	..
Germany	113.60	120.40	- 0.40	.
Income Inc	140.90	150.70†	- 1.30	4.86
(Accum Units)	152.10	162.70	- 1.40	4.86
International	294.90	315.40†	- 3.10	.
Intl Income	77.61	82.24	- 0.74	4.13
Japan & General	370.90	394.90	- 0.90	.
Korean Securities	62.89	67.27	+ 0.05	
Smllr Cos Div Inc	42.88	45.73	- 0.10	5.49
UK Capital Inc	150.50	161.00†	- 0.60	1.44
UK Capital Acc	263.20	281.50	- 1.10	1.44
UK Spec Sits	73.50	78.72	- 0.44	0.78
US & General	133.60	142.90	- 0.70	
Wwide Spec Sits	134.10	143.50	- 2.10	
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS 0171 782 2000 Dlgs only: 01277 264 421				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	2.64
Capital Trust	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Practical Div Inc #	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.56
(Accum Units) #	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.56
UK Index	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.93
UK Smaller Cos	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Income Funds				
Preference Share	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.39
High Income	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.19	5.40
UK Equity Income	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 2.42	3.83
Global Bond	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.17	5.36
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	[illegible]	42.75	- 0.62	
Global Inc & Gth	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 1.56	2.49
Gold & Intl Res	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.19	
Global Utilities	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 1.55	1.22
Overseas Funds				
American	143.15	149.49	- 0.93	1.24
European	95.32	101.73†	- 1.09	1.32
Euro Sel Opps	139.52	148.34	+ 1.40	.
Amer Emerging	96.09	102.77	+ 0.94	..
Hong Kong	125.26	134.13†	- 3.71	1.77
Japan	224.39	238.46	- 5.02	.
Pacific Growth	195.23	203.80	- 3.49	1.52
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds				
Managed Equity	[illegible]	220.17	- 1.35	2.24
Long Term Bal	216.77	216.77	- 1.69	3.46
Med Term Bal	190.08	190.39	- 1.22	3.85
UK Equity	226.71	226.71	- 1.33	2.63
UK Emerging Cos	130.78	130.78	- 0.04	2.49
American	233.22	233.22†	- 1.23	1.62
Japan	111.57	111.57†	+ 2.14	
European	249.51	249.51†	- 1.50	1.28
Index Linked Gilt	165.95	165.95	- 1.12	3.01
Fixed Interest	155.08	155.08	- 1.78	6.80
Amer Emergic	251.81	251.81†	- 1.44	0.19
Pacific	211.65	211.65	- 1.70	0.97
Emerging Mkts	109.03	109.03†	- 2.95	0.97
Index Stsd Japan	144.16	144.16	+ 3.08	0.31
-do- Pacific Rim	168.83	168.83	+ 3.00	1.38
-do- Cont Europe	144.27	144.27	+ 1.71	1.91
Index Stsd USA	132.74	132.74	+ 0.95	2.34
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds				
Managed Equity	94.40	100.42	- 0.68	.
Med Term Bal	89.34	95.04	- 0.48	
Long Term Bal	97.45	103.67	- 0.80	..
UK Equity	104.84	111.54	+ 0.66	..
UK Emerging Cos	61.31	65.22	- 0.01	
American	106.75	113.56	+ 0.61	.
Japan	53.58	57.00	- 1.09	.
European	103.55	110.16	+ 1.11	.
Fixed Interest	78.45	83.46	- 0.96	..
Index Linked Gilt	73.70	78.40	+ 0.53	...
Deposit	80.49	85.63	+ 0.01	
Broker Unit Trusts				
Berkeley Int Gth	107.40	114.30	- 0.40	..
Berkeley Income #	104.60	111.30	- 0.30	4.05
BWH Intl	127.26	133.96†	- 0.23	0.83
Beckif Gth Port Inc	57.29	60.46†	- 0.02	0.60
-do- Inc Port Inc	53.33	56.29†	- 0.19	3.40
-do- Wwide Port	49.79	52.55	- 0.25	0.10
Stew Utilities	51.69	54.55	+ 0.31	3.21
GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT GAM Sterling Management 0171 493 9990				
£ Intl Inc	513.04	545.79	..	1.87
(Accum Units)	570.60	607.02	..	1.87
European Inc	135.14	143.77		1.13
Amalgam Inc	135.32	143.07	..	
N America Inc	307.24	326.85	..	
Far East Inc	304.56	324.00	..	
(Accum Units)	315.43	335.56	..	
UK Divis Inc	165.98	176.57	+ 2.28	1.73
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MGMT LTD 0171 378 7979 Dealing: 0171 407 7888				
UK Equity Inc	82.12	86.66	- 1.23	4.93
UK Small Cos	45.25	48.39	- 0.03	1.02
British Growth	51.50	54.45	+ 0.91	2.61
American Gwth	165.25	176.74	+ 1.87	..
Japan Gwth	68.06	72.80	+ 0.68	..
Greater China	172.43	184.41	+ 2.68	..
Pacific Strategy	146.30	156.47	- 3.74	..
European Gwth	82.46	88.06	+ 0.90	0.29
Intl Growth	139.21	148.88	+ 2.09	..
US Index (E)	13.48	14.20	- 0.03	4.90
FT-SE Mid 250 Ind	69.38	73.53	+ 0.57	2.48
Monthly Income	35.61	38.00†	+ 0.44	8.00
MIS Unu Trust Dealing: 071 865 0032				
Gvd UK Index (E)	9.81	10.36	+ 0.18	4.40
GRANVILLE UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0171 488 1212				
Small Cos	84.73	90.13†	..	1.70
GUARDIAN UT MGRS LTD 0171 538 8668				
Cash	138.40	138.40		3.54
European	461.60	493.10	+ 6.30	0.15
Gilt & Fixed	123.70	131.30†	- 1.10	5.72
Growth Equity	306.80	327.80	+ 3.10	2.09
Income Trust	122.50	130.80	- 1.10	3.16
International	169.60	181.10	- 2.10	0.17
Japan Trust	120.80	129.00	+ 2.60	..
Nth American	256.00	273.40	+ 1.70	0.20
Pacific	495.80	529.60	+ 7.10	0.02
Guardhill	462.30	493.90†	+ 5.20	2.03
GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD 0171 522 2129				
EMU Trust	95.58	99.17†	+ 0.59	7.44
Global High Inc	95.07	98.64	+ 0.68	6.92
Prem Fixed Int	100.53	104.35	+ 0.79	8.04
Eqty & Bond Inc	96.62	102.73	+ 1.00	5.52
European Growth	95.79	101.85	+ 0.56	..
Intl PEP Trust	56.51	60.08	+ 0.43	
High Income	114.07	121.29†	- 2.59	4.28
-do- Accum	156.93	166.86	- 4.12	4.28
Recovery	338.40	359.83	- 2.00	1.97
(Accum Units)	388.40	413.00	- 2.20	1.97
St Vinc High Inc	111.97	113.64†	- 0.78	7.68
UK Emerg Cos	230.03	244.60	- 0.60	2.07
UK Smlr Cos	341.70	347.70	+ 15.30	2.56
Glob Priv Tst	86.18	91.53	+ 0.82	1.03
(Accum Units)	87.09	92.50	- 0.93	1.03
Inc Share Tst	81.32	86.46†	+ 0.21	8.87
HALIFAX UT MGMT LTD Dealing: 0171 220 5050				
Growth	24.35	25.82	- 0.15	1.82
Growth Acc	24.35	25.82	- 0.15	1.82
Income	24.31	25.77	+ 0.20	4.21
Income Acc	24.31	25.77	+ 0.20	4.21
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 390				
Model Ptflo	189.60	201.20†	- 2.90	2.57
Smaller Cos	30.91	32.85†	+ 1.17	0.88
HENDERSON TOUCHE REMNANT Enquiries: 01277 263 290 Dealing: 01277 234 772				
UK Funds				
Special Sits	276.78	296.14†	- 1.63	1.39
Best of British	60.62	64.64	- 0.45	2.85
UK Smaller Cos	114.09	122.54†	- 0.06	1.96
High Income Funds				
Income & Growth	258.55	276.40	+ 3.03	3.82
(Accum Units)	697.68	742.39	+ 5.44	3.82

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
High Income #	293.41	313.65	+ 1.67	4.44
Extra Income #	258.30	274.70†	+ 1.54	6.27
Pref & Gilt	45.69	49.18	+ 0.03	8.95
International				
International	246.77	262.57	+ 2.39	0.61
Global Bond	51.75	54.92†	- 0.32	8.17
Intl Pref Tst	75.39	80.62	- 0.31	8.32
Global Tech	154.15	164.62	+ 1.44	.
Overseas Funds				
Asian Enterprise	160.70	171.84	+ 2.11	0.30
European	449.02	475.78	+ 5.26	0.51
Europeae Income	77.48	81.97†	- 0.85	2.69
Euro Smlr Cos	147.03	157.76	- 0.15	0.15
Eur Sp Sits	66.65	70.90	+ 0.23	0.30
(Accum Units)	71.40	75.95	- 0.24	0.30
Japan Trust	193.00	205.47	+ 1.89	
Japan Special Sits	210.76	224.55	..	.
Pacific Smlr Cos	221.92	237.44	+ 1.95	
North American	231.48	246.12	+ 1.39	0.43
American Smaller	104.00	111.17	+ 0.30	
Henderson TR Pension Portfolio				
American Growth				
Eur Sp Sits	57.45	60.89	+ 0.20	...
General Growth	41.46	43.94	+ 0.29	.
Income Growth	40.01	42.41	+ 0.30	
Japan Growth	.		..	.
Smaller Cos				
Special Opps	27.31	28.64	+ 0.01	...
Worlds Sp Sits	45.00	47.69	+ 0.42	.
HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS 0181 686 4355				
British	92.00	96.33	+ 0.83	2.23
Capital	181.50	189.18†	+ 1.50	1.68
Dollar	344.10	360.30	+ 3.30	.15
Enterprise Gth	299.40	313.50†	+ 1.90	1.98
European	212.80	222.80	+ 2.00	0.72
Far East	288.10	301.60	+ 4.60	.48
Financial	759.80	795.60	+ 5.30	1.84
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	24.92	25.91	+ 0.22	7.67
High Yield	97.21	101.70	+ 0.70	4.28
Income & Growth	134.50	140.80	+ 1.00	3.59
International	239.90	251.20	+ 3.40	.05
Japanese General	192.20	201.30	+ 4.30	.
Japan Tech	77.08	80.71	+ 1.40	.
Nat Resources	66.31	69.43	+ 0.51	.
Portfolio	69.12	71.32	+ 0.57	1.48
Smaller Cos	117.80	123.30	+ 0.10	1.60
Special Sits	140.40	147.00†	+ 1.10	1.56
UK Emerging Cos	86.99	91.08	+ 0.12	0.95
US Smaller Cos	85.07	89.07	+ 0.94	.
HSBC UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD Advisers 0800 181 890 Inv 0800 289 505				
UK Funds				
Balanced #	95.01	101.40†	+ 0.70	6.29
Capital	555.00	592.38	+ 7.80	2.55
Income #	524.30	559.50	+ 7.20	5.34
Footsie Fund	50.84	51.31	+ 0.45	2.95
Trixie Index	101.60	107.80†	+ 0.50	2.18
UK Index	129.70	138.40	+ 1.10	3.24
International Funds				
American Growth	470.90	502.60	+ 0.80	0.63
American Index	199.30	212.40†	+ 1.50	1.20
European Growth	105.40	112.10	+ 1.70	0.34
Eurotrack 100	150.50	160.10†	+ 2.0	0.89
Global Bond	20.54	21.67	+ 0.12	8.20
Japan Growth	261.90	279.00	+ 4.80	.
Japan Index	76.80	81.96†	+ 2.13	0.04
Japan Smlr Cos	31.65	33.78†	+ 0.36	.
Far Eastern Funds				
Asian	50.05	53.42	+ 1.02	0.24
Hong Kong Gwth	89.24	95.24†	+ 3.12	1.48
Spore & Mlysn Gth	67.31	71.84	+ 1.0	.
Tiger Index	178.80	190.80	- 0.80	1.52
INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD 0171 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
UK Smaller Cos	28.28	29.35†	+ 0.09	1.11
General Funds				
Managed	67.73	70.30	+ 0.59	1.98
Rupert Child Fnd	80.40	83.45	+ 0.63	2.57
UK Growth	58.19	58.32	+ 0.45	2.47
High Income Funds				
Cashbox (Dist)	50.23	50.23†	+ 0.01	2.30
Cashbox (Acc)	59.22	59.22†	+ 0.01	2.30
UK Extra Inc	78.92	81.91	+ 1.08	6.94
Gilt & Fixed Int	25.83	26.83	+ 0.22	7.71
UK Inc & Gwth	38.09	39.53	+ 0.27	4.07
UK Income	319.00	331.10	+ 2.80	3.83
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Growth	48.01	49.72†	+ 0.21	0.57
Amer Smlr Cos	113.90	118.28	...	..
(Accum Units)	115.10	119.40		..
Europe Gth	145.20	150.40	+ 1.20	..
(Accum Units)	150.10	155.50	+ 1.20	..
Euro Smaller Cos	27.48	28.52	+ 0.19	..
French Growth	72.09	74.82†	+ 1.42	0.36
Accum Units	77.33	80.26†	+ 1.51	0.36
H Kong & China	71.39	74.10	+ 1.46	2.01
Intl Growth	54.19	56.24	+ 0.71	0.70
(Accum Units)	54.65	56.72	+ 0.72	0.70
Japan Gth	30.71	31.87	+ 0.65	..
Accum Units	30.71	31.87	+ 0.65	..
Japan Smaller Cos	37.01	38.41	+ 0.12	..
Glob Emg Mkts	83.20	86.38	+ 1.72	...
Accum Units	83.79	86.97	+ 1.72	..
SE Asia	293.20	304.40†	+ 5.20	0.51
Overseas Income Funds				
Intl Bond	53.46	55.07†	+ 0.32	5.89

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Contl Euro Gth	61.77	65.03	+ 0.91	1.27
-do- Acc	66.00	69.48	+ 0.96	1.27
Extra Inc	239.10	254.40	- 1.20	4.54
-do- Acc	620.80	660.50	- 3.10	4.54
FTSE 100 Inc	94.56	100.60	+ 1.13	2.84
FTSE 100 Acc	94.56	100.65	+ 1.13	2.84
German Gth	127.30	134.00	+ 0.70	0.18
-do- Acc	133.50	140.60	+ 0.80	0.18
Growth Port	510.10	542.70	+ 4.70	0.33
-do- Acc	518.60	551.80	+ 4.70	0.33
Hi Reserve Inc #	96.63	102.80	+ 0.80	6.25
Hi Reserve Acc #	96.63	102.80	+ 0.80	6.25
Income	463.10	492.70	+ 11.30	3.96
-do- Acc	£12.43	£13.23	+ 30.00	3.96
Income Port	492.00	523.50	- 3.80	4.86
-do- Acc	521.90	555.30	+ 4.00	4.86
Japan Growth	97.77	104.10	+ 2.38	.
-do- Acc	98.12	104.40	+ 2.20	.
Master Trust	55.29	58.82	+ 1.22	1.52
-do- Acc	61.72	65.67	+ 1.37	1.52
N American Gen	175.00	186.20	+ 1.30	0.76
-do- Acc	202.10	215.00	+ 1.30	0.76
NAm Sm Co Rec	136.20	144.90	+ 1.40	
-do- Acc	139.30	147.90	+ 1.50	..
Pacific Basin	225.30	239.70†	+ 2.80	0.86
-do- Acc	239.30	254.60	+ 3.00	0.86
Small Cos Rec	337.30	355.10	+ 0.40	2.18
-do- Acc	451.10	474.90	+ 0.60	2.18
UK Growth	79.58	84.66	+ 0.86	2.76
-do- Acc	98.74	103.80	+ 1.10	2.76
Worldwide Gth	291.80	310.50	+ 3.60	0.63
-do- Acc	430.40	457.90	+ 5.30	0.63
LONDON & MANCHESTER TST MGMT 01392 282 673				
American	84.06	88.72	+ 0.53	0.10
General	80.92	86.82	+ 0.89	2.60
Income	80.00	84.38†	+ 0.69	5.78
International	59.98	64.35	+ 0.99	0.50
Japan	54.69	58.67	+ 1.22	..
Tst of Inv Trusts	62.39	66.94	+ 0.36	1.40
M & G SECURITIES Cust Svcs/Unit Dlg: 01245 390 390				
Amer & General	378.30	400.00†	+ 2.80	0.71
(Accum Units)	471.40	498.40	- 3.50	0.71
Amer Recovery	437.10	462.20	- 1.80	0.70
(Accum Units)	501.60	530.40	- 2.10	0.70
Amer Smllr Cos	129.10	136.50	+ 0.10	
(Accum Units)	131.90	139.50	+ 0.10	..
Australasian	144.50	152.80†	+ 2.50	2.31
(Accum Units)	176.80	186.90	+ 3.00	2.31
Capital	778.90	823.70†	+ 7.70	2.86
(Accum Units)	893.70	945.20	- 8.90	2.86
Charifund	644.70	651.20	+ 7.80	6.05
(Accum Units)	£30.09	£30.39	+ 36.50	6.05
Commodity	356.20	376.70†	+ 1.90	0.52
(Accum Units)	522.90	553.00	+ 2.70	0.52
Compound Gth	885.10	936.00	+ 10.80	3.36
(Accum Units)	927.70	981.10	+ 11.30	3.36
Dividend	37.70	39.90	+ 0.50	4.62
(Accum Units)	158.20	167.40	+ 1.80	4.62
Equity Income	317.40	335.70†	+ 2.10	5.21
(Accum Units)	412.30	436.10	+ 2.70	5.21
Euro & General	474.80	502.10	+ 2.20	1.38
(Accum Units)	600.60	635.10	+ 2.80	1.26
Euro Dividend	66.90	70.70	+ 0.60	3.75
(Accum Units)	80.50	85.10	+ 0.70	3.75
Extra Yield	386.90	409.10†	+ 5.60	5.18
(Accum Units)	£12.22	£12.92	+ 17.70	5.18
Far Eastern	324.80	343.60†	+ 6.00	0.92
(Accum Units)	431.20	456.10	+ 7.90	0.92
Fund of Inv Tsts	579.70	613.00	+ 3.10	2.29
(Accum Units)	£10.82	£11.45	+ 5.90	2.29
General	57.10	60.40	+ 0.70	3.93
(Accum Units)	160.50	170.00	+ 2.10	3.93
Gilt Income	58.23	58.34†	+ 0.47	8.08
(Accum Units)	162.13	162.43	+ 1.29	8.08
Gold	60.90	64.40	+ 1.10	1.10
(Accum Units)	71.90	76.00	+ 1.20	1.10
High Income	26.89	28.30	+ 0.30	4.94
(Accum Units)	107.40	113.50	+ 1.20	4.94
Intl Growth	71.10	75.20	+ 0.90	1.16
(Accum Units)	124.00	131.30	+ 1.60	1.16
International Inc	93.90	99.30	+ 0.80	4.96
(Accum Units)	139.30	147.30	+ 1.20	4.96
Japan & Gen	42.60	45.00	+ 0.80	..
(Accum Units)	45.70	48.30	+ 0.80	...
Japan Smllr Cos	148.10	156.80	+ 1.50	..
(Accum Units)	149.20	157.80	+ 1.40	..
Managed Income	25.90	27.30†	+ 0.20	4.15
Midland	57.50	60.80	+ 0.80	3.39
(Accum Units)	192.10	203.30	+ 0.80	3.39
Pension Ex	878.30	901.30	+ 18.00	4.66
Recovery	38.70	40.90	+ 0.50	2.89
(Accum Units)	63.60	67.20	+ 0.80	2.89
Second General	64.90	68.60	+ 0.40	3.68
(Accum Units)	168.50	178.30	+ 1.00	3.68
Smaller Cos	64.30	68.00†	...	3.35
(Accum Units)	128.10	135.50		3.35
Sterling Hi Int	24.04	24.13	+ 0.17	8.74
Treasury	25.06	25.10†		6.22
Trustee	38.80	41.00	+ 0.30	4.71
(Accum Units)	156.30	165.40	+ 1.20	4.71
MGM UNIT MANAGERS LTD Dealing: 01277 261 010 Enq: 01903 204 631				
European Growth	77.37	82.30	+ 1.21	1.33
Intl Bond	82.95	86.20	- 0.51	5.92
Intl Equity Growth	67.47	71.77	+ 1.00	0.83
N Amer Growth	83.44	88.40†	+ 0.79	1.17
Special Sits Growth	19.89	21.25†	+ 0.17	1.76

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
FT-SE 100 Acc	51.79	54.13	+ 0.48	2.80
FT-SE 100 Dist	50.90	53.20	+ 0.47	2.80
Gilt & Fxd Int	52.82	54.97†	+ 0.42	7.01
(Accum Units)	154.90	161.20†	+ 1.30	7.01
High Yield	208.90	218.70	+ 1.40	5.92
(Accum Units)	523.30	547.90	+ 3.70	5.92
Income	266.30	278.80	+ 2.20	3.84
(Accum Units)	587.50	615.10	+ 4.80	3.84
Money Market UT	49.40	49.40	+ 0.01	5.48
(Accum Units)	77.82	77.82	+ 0.02	5.46
Monthly Income	80.39	84.18	+ 0.59	5.41
Midland Personal Pension Unit Trust				
British	96.44	102.60	+ 0.89	1.91
European Growth	97.23	103.10	- 0.30	0.82
Gilt & Fixed	84.44	88.58	+ 0.68	6.19
Income	79.90	85.08	+ 0.71	3.81
Japan Growth	49.38	52.34	+ 0.06	...
Managed	66.40	70.64	+ 1.07	2.49
Money Market	87.09	92.32	+ 0.03	4.35
North American	84.04	89.08	- 0.06	0.50
Midland FSAVCS Unit Trust				
British	87.58	93.15	+ 0.68	1.90
European Growth	91.46	96.95	- 0.31	0.81
Gilt & Fixed Int	80.55	85.45	+ 0.65	6.15
Income	78.50	83.51	+ 0.69	3.07
Japan Growth	49.26	52.24	+ 0.06	..
Managed	63.53	67.58	+ 0.43	2.46
Money Market	80.52	85.35	+ 0.03	4.30
North American	76.65	81.25	- 0.06	0.50
Midland Executive Pension Unit Trust				
British	87.51	93.19	- 0.69	1.89
European Growth	89.29	94.65	- 0.30	..
Gilt & Fixed Int	73.62	78.10	+ 0.60	6.32
Income	77.47	82.41	+ 0.68	3.10
Japan Growth	50.44	53.47	+ 0.06	..
Managed	66.26	70.49	+ 0.45	2.46
Money Market	74.98	79.48	+ 0.02	4.38
North American	84.73	89.81	- 0.07	0.47
MILLENNIUM FUND MGMT LTD 0171 407 5966				
International (US$)	11.91	12.67	..	...
MORGAN GRENFELL INVEST FDS LTD Dealers: 0171 826 0826 Enquiries: 0171 826 0123				
American Gwth	333.70	354.50	- 3.50	..
European Gth Inc	410.20	439.80	+ 5.30	0.29
(Accum Units)	414.60	444.60	+ 5.40	0.29
Intl Gwth	185.70	197.90	+ 2.80	
UK Equity Inc	174.30	185.90	+ 1.80	3.22
UK Ind Trckr Inc	149.30	159.80†	+ 1.60	2.80
(Accum Units)	177.20	189.60†	+ 1.90	2.80
US Eq Ind Trk Inc	198.00	209.90†	+ 1.80	1.53
Japan Tracker	72.97	77.20	+ 1.87	..
Asian Trader	188.10	203.30	+ 2.60	0.31
Managed Inc	147.20	157.00	+ 1.20	1.48
Deposit Inc	99.84	99.84†	+ 0.01	4.55
Europa	172.00	184.60†	+ 1.60	0.26
Genesis	144.80	158.40		2.30
High Income	21.31	22.60†	...	10.00
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UT MGMT 0345 080 933				
Acumen	90.29	92.26	+ 0.91	2.69
Acumen Inc	85.46	87.32	+ 0.86	2.69
Acumen Reserve	82.53	83.35	+ 0.61	8.18
-do- Inc	70.86	71.57	+ 0.53	8.16
American Growth	145.80	150.40†	+ 3.70	..
Cash Income	48.74	48.74†		5.21
Equity Income #	88.90	91.36†	+ 0.83	5.15
European	69.33	70.98	+ 0.99	0.35
Smaller Cos	72.86	76.29	- 0.12	1.42
Olympiad	60.31	61.70†	+ 1.43	0.84
Global Bond	43.23	43.71†	+ 0.27	6.71
UK Growth	87.89	90.25	+ 0.76	2.18
Pacific Growth	98.35	101.90	+ 1.90	...
Japan Growth	89.56	91.13	+ 2.44	...
NFU MUTUAL UNIT MGRS LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Avon Equity	114.32	121.62	+ 0.59	2.96
N&P UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 0161 237 5322				
UK Growth	68.67	73.05	+ 0.49	2.28
UK Income	101.79	108.29	+ 0.89	4.17
Higher Income	199.72	212.47	+ 1.24	5.69
Smaller Cos	73.65	78.35†	...	2.37
International	91.05	96.86	+ 1.87	1.93
NPI INVESTMENT MGRS 0171 623 4200				
Americas Dist	97.75	104.55	+ 0.09	0.66
European Dist	107.60	115.10		...
Far East Dist	167.30	178.90†	+ 3.20	...
Global Care Dist	64.52	69.01	+ 0.27	1.07
Oseas Dist	962.80	£10.29†	+ 9.60	0.15
(Accum Units)	£12.49	£13.35	+ 12.50	0.15
UK Dist	323.80	346.30	+ 2.30	2.68
(Accum Units)	635.10	679.20	+ 4.50	2.68
UK Extra Inc Dist	71.71	76.69†	+ 0.41	4.18
Wwide Dist	99.84	106.78	+ 1.07	0.21
Wwide Inc Dist	67.82	71.68	+ 0.47	2.68
NATIONAL WESTMINSTER UT MGRS Dlg: 01277 690 280 Admin Enq: 01277 690 366				
Europe Inc	80.64	84.00†	+ 0.55	0.58
Fund of Funds Inc	54.86	57.90	+ 0.36	0.90
North America Inc	48.47	51.16	+ 0.10	0.51
UK Equity Grth Inc	56.13	59.18	+ 0.39	2.15
(Accum Units)	57.21	60.36	+ 0.40	2.15
UK General Inc	54.09	57.09	+ 0.41	2.63
UK Gilt/Fix Int Inc	45.93	48.36	+ 0.33	7.26
UK Income Inc	53.50	56.48†	+ 0.36	4.13
NEWTON FUND MGRS LTD Price enquiry freephone 0500 33 00 00				
Bond	115.22	122.20	+ 0.88	5.80
Hedge Fund	80.25	85.38†	- 0.78	2.23
Distributor	88.60	92.13†	+ 0.69	3.50
Foundation	86.95	92.99	+ 0.59	3.85
General	171.67	182.63	+ 1.03	2.29
Global	302.26	321.56†	+ 2.14	0.79
Growth	116.57	124.02	+ 0.91	2.70
Higher Income Inc	25.70	27.48	+ 0.40	4.52
Income	214.16	227.84	+ 1.06	3.67
Interest	109.62	114.19		1.80
Formerly Capital House				
American Gwth Tst	35.08	37.51	- 0.04	0.28
Cash Income	50.72	50.72		5.75
European Gwth	38.25	40.86	+ 0.41	0.21
Intl Gwth	28.03	29.97	+ 0.30	0.46
Japan Gwth	25.35	27.11	+ 0.49	
Managed Tst Inc	45.31	48.45	+ 0.41	2.43
Oriental Opps Inc	128.10	137.00	+ 2.53	0.29
Property Shares	31.82	34.03	- 0.14	0.85
Smaller Cos	28.27	30.23	- 0.73	1.45
UK Growth Tst	34.29	36.67	+ 0.15	2.89
Royal Scottish Assurance				
Cap Hse Global Inc	67.26	71.93†	+ 0.53	1.91
Cap Hse UK Inc	63.03	67.41	+ 0.44	3.04
Exempt (E)	29.84	30.70		1.76
German	50.14	53.36	+ 0.37	.
High Income	68.22	72.95†	+ 0.32	5.15
Mngd Ptflio Inc	101.70	108.70		1.07
Mngd Ptflio Acc	194.40	207.90		1.07
Monthly Income	72.82	77.88	- 0.30	4.54
NORTHERN ROCK UNIT TRUST LTD 0191 285 2555				
Managed	91.05	96.61	+ 2.20	2.31
NORWICH UNION TST MANAGERS 01603 682 234				
Master Trust	115.20	121.26†	+ 1.14	2.15
UK Equity	129.06	135.85†	+ 0.92	3.36
UK Equity Income	123.72	130.23	+ 1.08	3.59
UK Smaller Cos	108.79	114.52	+ 0.15	1.79
UK Equity Growth	121.81	128.22	+ 0.89	2.55
UK Index Trckg	130.82	137.71†	+ 1.02	3.78
Intl Index Trckg	139.14	146.46†	+ 1.87	1.23
International	223.31	235.06	+ 3.01	0.47
European	188.05	198.00†	+ 2.60	0.59
Pan European	124.84	131.20	+ 1.44	1.47
Nth American	170.37	179.34	+ 1.19	0.15
N Amer Smlr Cos	181.59	191.15	+ 1.13	
Japanese	87.69	92.30	+ 1.63	
Pacific	212.73	223.93	+ 3.90	0.30
South East Asian	231.55	243.74	+ 4.14	0.53
Intl Bond	131.96	138.93	+ 0.58	4.22
Gilt & Convertible	101.96	107.33	+ 0.66	6.39
Property	81.87	86.18	- 0.05	5.36
OLD MUTUAL FUND MGRS LTD 01256 768 888				
European Inc	243.50	261.50	+ 2.20	0.09
(Accum Units)	257.70	276.80	+ 2.40	0.09
Japan Inc	106.00	113.30	+ 2.69	..
Nth American Inc	108.20	110.80		0.47
Worldwide Inc	147.70	158.90	+ 1.30	0.93
Hong Kong Inc	127.60	137.20	+ 4.40	1.06
Swiss Equities Inc	66.43	71.07	+ 1.14	..
Wwide Bond Inc	58.88	62.32†	+ 0.29	5.61
Emging Asia Inc	186.80	213.50	+ 0.50	..
(Accum Units)	197.50	214.20	+ 0.40	..
UK Money Mkt Inc	50.25	50.25†	+ 0.01	6.14
Thailand Inc	144.40	155.20	- 0.60	1.04
Gold Trust Inc	69.53	74.44	- 0.27	0.78
New Zealand Inc	84.31	90.65	+ 0.20	1.55
Int Mngd PEP Inc	59.10	63.50†	+ 0.51	1.22
Latin Am Crop Inc	47.28	51.46	+ 3.22	..
UK All Sh Mkr Inc	54.35	58.36†	+ 0.47	2.38
Broker Unit Trusts				
Global Trustees	72.85	77.91	- 0.40	..
Global Portfolio	64.02	68.16	- 1.57	..
Global Opps	62.46	66.80	- 0.46	.
Marsh Global Grth	59.37	62.98	+ 0.58	.
AAM Global Equity	51.37	54.45	- 0.28	..
CAM Brit Gwth Inc	84.53	89.75	+ 0.51	..
Temple Equity Inc	40.79	44.83	+ 0.28	2.85
Hartley Growth	66.83	72.95	+ 0.19	0.39
Intl Growth Inc	82.08	87.73	- 0.02	0.29
IFS Portfolio Inc	75.76	81.03	- 0.34	..
St Jms Mkt Inc Inc	47.95	49.90	+ 0.06	..
Premier Perfms Inc	63.85	67.43	- 0.41	1.99
Roxborgh Stax Gth	67.30	71.98	- 0.01	0.35
Tech Analysis	82.63	88.18	+ 0.38	..
Rosebery Growth	45.51	48.74	+ 0.69	0.36
International Stst	72.80	77.33	- 0.12	..
UFC Ind-Act Gth	50.33	54.50	- 0.27	...
Covertale Topsal	46.16	49.64	+ 0.19	
Prem Equity Inc	108.70	114.40	..	
Lowes Intl Growth	45.13	47.50	+ 0.53	1.06
PEARL UNIT TRUSTS LTD Dlg: 0800 626 577 Enq: 01733 470 470				
Equity	228.40	242.90	+ 2.30	2.80
(Accum Units)	482.10	512.80	+ 5.00	2.80
Growth	148.50	158.30	+ 1.30	2.87
Income	228.29	248.60	+ 2.30	3.98
Intl Equity	240.09	255.30	+ 3.70	1.23
(Accum Units)	265.30	282.20	+ 4.10	1.23
UK Income	62.16	66.12	+ 0.58	3.56
UK Intl 25	75.79	80.62	+ 0.66	2.46
New Europe	75.64	79.83	+ 1.11	0.75
PERPETUAL UNIT TST MGMT 01491 417 000				
Intl Growth Inc	550.20	588.55	+ 1.25	0.70
(Accum Units)	550.86	589.16	+ 1.25	0.70
Income	340.05	363.70	+ 0.87	3.55
Wwide Recovery	351.90	376.37	+ 0.68	0.62
Amer Growth Inc	213.17	227.98†	- 0.95	0.01
(Accum Units)	213.17	227.90	- 0.95	0.01
Intl Emerging Cos	223.17	238.69	+ 0.57	0.05
Far Estn Gth Inc	250.33	287.74	+ 1.44	0.35
(Accum Units)	250.33	287.74	+ 1.44	0.35
Euro Gwth Inc	137.26	146.81	+ 0.21	0.84
(Accum Units)	137.60	147.17	+ 0.20	0.84
UK Growth Inc	84.39	90.26†	+ 0.17	2.58
(Accum Units)	88.75	94.92	+ 0.18	2.58
High Income	90.89	97.21	+ 0.23	4.38
Jap Gwth Inc	204.43	217.87†	+ 4.37	0.01
(Accum Units)	204.43	217.87	+ 4.37	0.01
PEP Growth	111.18	118.91	+ 0.45	1.15
Asian Sh Mkts Inc	113.38	121.27	+ 0.31	0.01
(Accum Units)	113.38	121.27	+ 0.31	0.01
Amer Smllr Co Inc	125.31	134.03	+ 0.31	0.01
(Accum Units)	125.31	134.03	+ 0.31	0.01
Global Bond	53.41	56.28†	+ 0.24	6.04
UK Smaller Cos Inc	75.90	81.18	+ 0.08	1.64
(Accum Units)	78.85	84.34	+ 0.09	1.64
PILGRIM UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 0191 201 3927				
American	93.25	99.20	+ 0.24	...
European	66.91	71.18†	- 0.07	..
Global	57.42	61.09	- 0.07	...
Pacific	52.88	56.26	- 0.65	..
UK Inc & Gth	60.53	64.39†	+ 0.11	1.66
POINTON YORK UT MGRS 0116 2550 540				
PY Director Digs	86.11	91.71	+ 0.51	8.35
PORTFOLIO FUND MGMT LTD Enq: 0171 638 0808 Dlg: 01277 690 430				
Fund of Funds	148.38	157.24	- 0.27	0.11
Emerg Mkts	42.39	44.56	+ 1.72	...
PREMIUM LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD 01444 458 721				
Monthly Income	57.10	60.52	+ 0.51	2.79
Growth Income	80.08	83.66	+ 0.41	2.41
PRINCIPAL UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 01732 740 700				
Principal Tst	124.62	132.58†	+ 0.50	1.73

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
PROLIFIC UNIT TST MGRS LTD Enquiries: 0171 280 3700 Dealing: 0800 262 443				
American Income	88.30	93.94	+ 0.50	3.86
Conv & Gilt	106.20	113.00†	+ 0.40	6.52
European Income	70.92	75.44	+ 0.98	2.87
Extra Income	142.20	151.30	+ 1.00	3.85
(Accum Units)	172.50	183.50	+ 1.10	3.83
Far East	358.40	381.30	+ 6.70	0.08
(Accum Units)	365.10	388.50	+ 6.80	0.08
Global Income	24.03	25.56	+ 0.24	4.87
High Income	108.80	115.80	+ 2.20	3.69
(Accum Units)	129.10	137.40	+ 2.60	3.69
International	184.20	196.00	+ 2.10	0.67
(Accum Units)	189.90	202.00	+ 2.20	0.67
Pref & Fxd Int	42.60	45.84	+ 0.11	7.98
Recovery	68.97	71.24	- 1.07	2.87
Special Sits	101.80	108.30	+ 0.50	1.13
(Accum Units)	110.20	117.20	+ 0.50	1.13
Technology	386.60	411.30	- 5.30	..
UK Blue Chip	64.92	69.08†	+ 0.73	2.70
(Accum Units)	72.60	77.24	+ 0.82	2.70
PROVIDENT MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD 0171 588 3903				
Equity Gth	167.60	178.30†	+ 1.80	1.86
European Gth	94.31	99.89	+ 0.78	0.39
Income & Gth #	126.80	134.70†	+ 1.50	3.30
Japan Gth	112.10	119.10	+ 1.80	..
Nth Amer Gth	120.70	128.40	+ 1.50	0.16
Overseas Gth	86.65	92.18	+ 1.27	
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD 0181 478 3377 Client Enq: 0171 911 4400				
Managed Tst	35.52	36.80†	+ 0.35	1.78
Cash Haven Inc	101.19	101.88†	+ 0.01	5.07
Cash Haven Acc	111.75	112.30†	+ 0.01	5.07
Dist Trust Inc	92.74	96.10†	+ 0.65	6.18
Dist Trust Acc	95.91	99.38†	+ 0.67	6.18
Global Growth	84.17	89.54†	..	1.25
Equity Inc	77.58	82.44†	+ 0.66	3.75
Equity	686.22	730.02	+ 5.18	2.40
European	206.11	219.58	+ 4.02	1.00
High Income	84.08	89.42†	+ 0.47	5.18
Intl Gth	175.24	186.42	+ 2.55	1.02
Intl Sm Co	73.20	77.87	+ 0.95	0.58
Japanese	203.49	210.87†	+ 4.44	
Nth Amer	166.19	172.21	+ 0.84	1.78
Pacific Mkts	96.26	99.75†	+ 0.69	0.55
Premier Inc	46.84	48.54	+ 0.31	6.80
Sm Cos	82.33	87.58	+ 0.11	1.50
Spec Sits	102.82	109.38	- 0.77	2.29
UK Growth	114.92	122.25†	+ 0.94	2.35
RELIANCE UNIT MGRS LTD 01892 510 033				
British Life	285.10	302.30	+ 2.40	3.39
For Rock Asset see Northern Rock				
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT Dealers: 0171 280 5000				
FA America (Inc)	505.10	537.19	- 6.84	0.43
FA America (Acc)	580.52	628.03	- 8.00	0.43
FA UK Equity Inc	149.22	158.34	+ 1.99	3.80
FA Japan	245.75	261.86	+ 6.37	..
FA Major UK Cos	90.69	96.74	+ 1.21	2.54
FA Smlr UK Cos	273.40	290.86†	+ 0.25	1.41
FA European	305.39	324.57	+ 2.22	0.71
FA Amer Smlr Cos	43.40	46.55	+ 0.33	0.14
FA Asia	44.50	47.89	+ 0.84	0.14
FA Jap Smlr Cos	43.27	46.31	+ 0.30	..
RAM Personal Pension				
UK Major Cos	92.30	97.15	+ 1.21	..
UK Smlr Cos	79.09	83.25	+ 0.08	...
UK Income	90.67	95.43	+ 1.13	..
America	101.44	106.77	- 1.37	..
Japanese	54.06	56.90	+ 1.39	..
European	98.11	103.27	+ 0.71	..
Gilt	88.44	90.98	+ 0.57	.
Deposit	83.82	88.23	+ 0.02	...
Managed	93.95	98.90	+ 1.09	..
BAM FSAVC Scheme				
UK Major Cos	89.86	94.58	+ 1.18	
UK Smaller Cos	77.24	81.30	+ 0.07	.
UK Income	88.45	93.10	+ 1.12	.
America	98.71	103.90	- 1.33	...
Japanese	52.61	55.37	+ 1.36	..
European	95.57	100.59	+ 0.69	..
Gilt	85.49	88.88	+ 0.61	..
Deposit	79.87	84.07	+ 0.02	..
Managed	87.54	92.14	+ 1.04	..
ROYAL LIFE FD MGMT LTD Prices: 01733 282 828 Gen Enq: 01733 390 000				
United States	78.71	84.09	+ 0.11	0.22
Pacific Basin	70.58	76.14	+ 1.01	..
High Inc Dist	128.00	136.80	+ 1.00	5.19
Ryl Life Int Cmy	56.15	59.71†	+ 0.44	4.40
Ryl Life Intl Gwth	83.70	88.00	+ 0.70	0.025
Ryl Life Intl Spec	59.46	63.27	+ 0.38	..
UK Emerging Cos	117.40	126.90	+ 0.10	1.21
UK Index Trckg	151.90	161.80	- 2.90	3.48
European	124.20	133.20	+ 1.70	0.29
Managed	139.00	149.40	+ 1.20	0.79
ROYAL LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD 01206 784 400				
American Growth	143.90	152.10	.	0.52
European Growth	105.60	112.70†	.	0.97
Far East Growth	119.40	127.10	.	0.51
Japan Growth	125.70	133.60	.	
Special Sits	178.60	189.90†		1.67
UK Growth	72.09	76.69		2.65
Triton General	223.80	238.10		0.82
ST JAMES'S PLACE UT GROUP LTD 0141 307 6500				
Far East Inc	149.60	159.30	+ 2.40	0.43
Gtr Euro Prog Inc	320.80	339.50	+ 2.33	0.78
(Accum Units)	498.70	527.70	+ 3.50	0.73
Growth Inc	123.90	131.10	- 0.70	3.82
(Accum Units)	126.20	133.50	- 0.70	3.82
International Inc	319.10	337.70	+ 2.09	[illegible]
(Accum Units)	427.60	452.10	+ [illegible]	[illegible]
Nth Am & Intl Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1.75
UK Gen Prog Inc	213.90	[illegible]	+ 1.76	1.42
UK High Inc Inc	124.35	[illegible]	[illegible]	4.17
SAHWA INTL INVEST SERVICES LTD 0171 330 0572				
American Gwth	63.18	[illegible]	+ 0.55	
Amer Smlr Cos	74.87	79.64	- 2.54	
Asian Gwth	102.36	108.89†	- 6.77	0.75
European Gwth	64.91	69.04	- 2.67	[illegible]
Global Bd	57.92	61.20†	- 0.41	[illegible]
Global Ec	57.38	61.04	+ 2.52	0.53
Japanese Eq	49.28	52.42	- 0.95	
Japan Sm Cos	56.10	59.67†	- 0.81	
UK Gen	49.56	52.72	- 0.61	2.50
UK Gwth	56.20	59.78	+ 0.35	1.75
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP 01708 766 966				
Amer Inc & Gwth #	68.21	72.56	+ 0.52	4.11
Amer Smlr Cos	111.10	118.20†	+ 1.0	.
Asian Smaller Cos	38.84	42.38	+ 0.60	.
Capital Portfolio	120.00	127.70	+ 1.90	2.01
Cash	126.50	126.50		5.56
China Dragon	55.35	58.88	+ 1.71	0.83
Commodity	116.20	123.60†	+ 0.40	0.40
Eastern Discovery	89.90	95.64	+ 1.41	.
Emerging Mkts	34.71	36.93	+ 0.54	0.43
Energy Inds	115.70	123.10†	+ 0.80	0.79
European Gwth	178.00	189.40	+ 2.20	..
Euro Inc & Gwth #	73.74	78.45	+ 0.96	1.36
Euro Smllr Cos	52.10	55.43	+ 0.13	..
Extra Income #	48.65	51.32†	+ 0.49	8.03
Financial Secs	197.60	210.20	+ 2.20	1.66
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc #	46.37	48.94†	+ 0.33	9.50
Gold & Exploration	71.27	75.82	+ 0.30	..
High Return #	215.30	229.00	+ 2.50	4.44
High Yield #	216.70	230.50	+ 2.30	4.18
Income #	112.40	119.60†	+ 1.30	4.68
Intl Bond	160.50	169.50†	+ 1.30	5.78
ITU	193.00	205.30	+ 1.60	1.55
Japan Growth	159.50	169.70	+ 1.90	..
Japan Smaller	162.40	172.80	+ 0.70	..
Korea	61.71	65.65	- 0.21	..
Masterfund	52.06	55.38	+ 0.55	1.31
Scotbits	299.40	318.50	+ 3.50	1.43
Scotshares #	276.80	294.50	+ 3.90	2.54
Scotyields #	225.10	239.50†	+ 3.20	4.07
Select Intl	130.00	138.30	+ 1.40	0.37
Smaller Cos Inc #	227.70	242.20		4.15
SE Asia	49.31	52.46	+ 0.71	..
Special Situation	119.40	127.00	+ 1.60	1.03
UK Equity #	232.80	247.70	+ 4.40	3.93
UK Growth	61.72	65.66	+ 0.81	1.52
UK & O'seas	155.40	165.30	+ 2.30	1.30
UK Smlr Cos Gwth	43.86	45.66†	+ 0.09	0.97
US Growth	147.10	156.50†	+ 1.40	0.45
Univ Growth	130.50	138.80	+ 1.40	0.75
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD Clnt: 0800 526 535 Brkr: 0800 526 540				
Retail Funds				
American	248.58	264.10	- 2.59	0.93
(Accum Units)	271.51	288.45	- 2.83	0.93
European Gwth	71.36	75.77	+ 0.34	0.91
Euro Smlr Cos	75.94	81.00	+ 0.04	0.37
Far Eastern Gth	89.15	95.08†	+ 1.71	..
(Accum Units)	90.76	96.81	+ 1.74	
Gilt & Fixed Int #	49.53	52.22†	+ 0.41	7.98
Global Bond #	49.26	50.90	+ 0.19	7.08
(Accum Units) #	54.84	55.85	+ 0.21	7.08
Global Emer Mkts	48.51	49.61	+ 0.65	..
(Accum Units)	48.51	49.61	+ 0.65	..
Income #	329.74	351.72†	+ 2.42	5.44
(Accum Units) #	£10.48	£11.18	+ 7.69	5.44
Japan Smllr Cos	448.55	478.45	+ 2.49	...
(Accum Units)	449.45	479.41	+ 2.50	..
Japan Enterprise	84.48	88.77	+ 1.27	..
Pacific Basin	121.48	129.57†	+ 1.91	0.39
(Accum Units)	125.40	133.76	+ 1.98	0.39
Portfolio	76.41	81.50†	+ 0.60	2.23
(Accum Units)	83.00	88.53	+ 0.65	2.23
Seoul	47.64	51.27		
(Accum Units)	47.64	51.27	...	...
Smaller Cos	199.59	212.89	+ 0.30	1.54
Tokyo	116.86	124.65†	+ 2.25	..
(Accum Units)	118.04	125.91	+ 2.27	..
UK Enterprise	240.71	256.75	+ 1.23	2.27
(Accum Units)	288.76	308.01	+ 1.48	2.27
UK Equity	228.10	243.30	+ 1.46	2.90
(Accum Units)	443.23	472.77	+ 2.84	2.90
US Smlr Cos	158.80	167.34	- 1.32	..
(Accum Units)	45.52	47.40	- 0.45	0.67
Institutional Funds				
European	228.25	237.09†	+ 3.26	1.29
(Accum Units)	254.14	283.99	+ 3.63	1.29
Euro Smlr Cos	28.02	28.18	+ 0.17	1.67
(Accum Units)	29.72	30.95	+ 0.17	1.67
Global Equity Inc	74.64	77.74	+ 0.89	0.95
Japan Smlr Cos	36.68	38.18	+ 0.32	0.27
(Accum Units)	35.94	38.47	+ 0.31	0.27
Mngd Balanced	179.82	187.41	+ 1.44	2.87
(Accum Units)	202.98	211.44	+ 1.63	2.87
Overseas Equity	178.82	186.27	+ 2.65	1.24
(Accum Units)	185.16	192.86	+ 2.74	1.24
Oseas Smlr Cos	119.68	124.82†	+ 0.58	0.75
(Accum Units)	124.36	129.53	+ 0.60	0.75
Pacific	226.83	236.36	+ 4.45	1.36
(Accum Units)	249.70	260.10	+ 4.86	1.36
Recovery	£17.27	£17.99†	+ 16.40	3.12
(Accum Units)	£18.28	£19.02	+ 17.44	3.12
UK Index	146.52	152.62	+ 1.61	3.63
(Accum Units)	178.74	186.18	+ 1.96	3.63
UK Small Cos	105.50	109.89†	+ 0.68	2.99
(Accum Units)	113.09	117.80	+ 0.80	2.99
US Smlr Cos	44.72	46.58	- 0.44	0.67
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UT MGRS LTD 0141 204 2200				
Equity Income	47.12	50.18	+ 0.50	4.05
Equity Trust	57.67	61.42	+ 0.76	3.38
Equity Strategy	67.55	71.94	+ 0.69	1.51
European Opps	82.50	87.86	+ 1.44	1.38
UK Smaller Cos	57.82	61.58	+ 0.05	1.52
Maximum Inc	98.28	100.83	- 0.03	6.75
Japanese	71.74	76.40	+ 1.88	...
Asia Pacific	110.98	118.19	+ 1.86	1.42
American	98.88	105.42	+ 0.56	0.66
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE FD MGRS LTD 0800 454 422				
Cash	31.04	31.04	...	5.974
UK General Inc	49.42	52.71	+ 0.50	2.84
(Accum Units)	63.46	67.68	+ 0.63	2.84
Intl Income	254.50	270.50†	+ 6.60	1.01
(Accum Units)	436.80	464.40†	+ 11.40	1.01
European	76.65	81.18	+ 0.59	1.47
Japan	66.04	70.00	+ 1.37	0.06
American	66.27	70.17†	+ 0.68	1.92
Far East	79.49	84.79	+ 0.78	0.76
Ethical Inc	27.85	29.78†	+ 0.11	2.15
UK Blue Chip Inc	32.09	34.30†	+ 0.38	2.96
High Inc Inc	34.30	36.46	+ 0.31	3.44

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Global Inc	37.79	40.28†	+ 0.45	1.57
Worlds Tact	66.27	70.72†	+ 1.28	1.25
Europe 2000 Tact	51.13	54.34	+ 0.76	1.51
Technology	106.88	113.55†	+ 1.55	1.51
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 0131 225 2211				
UK Equity	383.10	387.90	+ 3.30	3.07
American	259.20	275.30	+ 1.80	0.59
Pacific	363.40	388.70	- 8.90	0.81
European	535.30	572.50	- 5.10	1.40
Worldwide	84.71	90.60	+ 0.64	0.78
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INV MGRS LTD 0141 248 6100				
UK Equity Inc	253.80	270.00	+ 2.20	2.42
(Accum Units)	320.20	340.70	+ 2.20	2.42
UK Sir Co Eq Inc	184.80	196.70	+ 0.50	2.41
(Accum Units)	221.60	235.88	+ 0.50	2.41
Select Opptnty Inc	82.85	87.22†	+ 0.76	2.19
Income Plus Inc	66.31	70.56†	+ 0.91	4.39
European Inc	329.20	350.30	+ 4.60	1.42
(Accum Units)	372.00	395.80	+ 4.80	1.42
Far Eastern Inc	162.20	172.60	+ 3.00	0.89
(Accum Units)	184.60	196.40	+ 3.00	0.89
Japanese Inc	58.08	61.79	+ 1.48	
Nth American Inc	235.30	250.40	+ 1.40	0.67
(Accum Units)	259.10	275.70	+ 1.40	0.67
Intl Growth Inc	190.40	202.60	+ 3.60	0.89
Wwide Venture Inc	75.88	80.73†	+ 0.96	1.87
SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND MGMT 0131 655 3724				
Equity Inc	343.80	366.70	+ 4.00	3.04
(Accum Units)	504.20	537.80	+ 5.90	3.04
UK High Inc	172.60	184.10	+ 2.20	4.10
(Accum Units)	249.20	265.80	+ 3.20	4.10
Europe Inc	346.40	369.50	+ 2.60	0.68
Nth Amer Inc	218.50	218.70	+ 0.90	..
Global Inc	189.20	201.70	+ 2.00	0.36
UK Spec Sits Inc	91.69	97.78	+ 1.10	3.46
South East Asia	205.10	218.70	+ 2.70	0.61
Cash Trust Inc	101.10	101.10	..	5.70
UK Smllr Cos Inc	94.27	100.50	- 0.10	2.30
(Accum Units)	96.41	102.80	- 0.10	2.30
Intl Bond Inc	91.50	97.15	+ 0.80	6.33
SEMPER EADEM FUND MGMT LTD *Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010*				
Sector Recovery	137.50	144.40†	+ 1.90	4.62
SHARP (ALBERT E) Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
European	121.40	127.80	+ 1.90	0.97
Nth American	103.20	108.60	+ 0.70	0.05
Intl Bond & Conv	119.70	126.00	+ 0.50	5.78
Pooled Pension (C)	175.60	186.80	+ 4.50	2.27
Smaller Cos	68.24	72.88	+ 0.01	1.54
UK General	122.29	128.60	+ 1.50	2.06
SINGER & FRIEDLANDER INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD 0171 626 8228				
Amer Gilt Fund‡	100.0	.	+ 0.41	...
Astect	87.08	..	+ 3.54	..
European‡	120.10	.	+ 0.40	
Global Bond‡	93.88	.	+ 0.53	7.66
Sterling‡	57.98	...	- 0.58	.
UK Growth‡	94.31	...	+ 0.50	2.90
Tal Port‡	95.85	...	+ 0.76	
UK Emerg Leaders‡	98.17	...	+ 0.42	1.42
SMITH & WILLIAMSON UT MGRS 0171 637 5377				
American	306.40	324.30†	- 0.10	...
Canadian	62.65	66.30	- 0.49	0.95
Capital	114.20	122.20	+ 0.80	1.65
Cash	101.90	101.90	+ 0.01	6.13
European	128.80	138.30	+ 0.30	0.63
Far Eastern	141.10	149.30	- 1.80	.
Growth	124.60	131.90	+ 0.90	1.31
Income	117.50	124.48†	+ 0.70	6.03
Magnum	122.90	131.60	+ 0.80	1.84
Smlr Secs	348.60	368.90	+ 1.00	1.21
Thoroughbred	142.60	152.80	+ 0.90	1.50
SOVEREIGN UNIT TST MGRS LTD 01202 298 422				
Cash	50.28	50.76	.	5.10
Capital Prtnrce	52.82	56.34†	+ 0.21	8.20
Ethical	52.58	55.84†	+ 0.26	2.80
European Growth	71.48	76.25	+ 0.59	3.00
Income	52.05	55.51	+ 0.36	6.30
Intl Growth	95.72	102.10	+ 1.00	3.00
Managed	79.71	85.02	+ 0.65	3.90
UK Growth	56.87	62.58†	+ 0.42	3.50
STANDARD LIFE UNIT TRUSTS 0800 393 777				
Standard Life Fund Mngmt Ltd				
Global Advtg Inc	36.94	37.13†	+ 0.30	1.99
Global Advtg Acc	39.61	39.81	+ 0.30	1.99
Income Advtg Inc	39.92	39.07†	+ 0.30	4.33
Income Advtg Acc	33.16	33.33	+ 0.40	4.33
UK Equity Gth Acc	61.15	64.82	+ 0.60	1.71
Standard Life Tst Mngmt Ltd				
Managed Acc	48.11	51.12	+ 0.30	1.84
UK Eq Hi Inc Inc	34.69	36.86	+ 0.40	4.06
UK Eq Hi Inc Acc	42.97	45.66	+ 0.60	4.06
UK Equity Gen Acc	58.90	62.59	- 0.60	2.58
UK Equity Gen Inc	43.57	46.30	- 0.40	2.58
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	30.26	32.00	+ 0.30	6.47
Oseas Lrg Co Acc	297.40	322.70	- 0.60	1.71
Nth American Acc	44.47	47.25	+ 0.40	0.88
Far East Acc	63.87	67.87	- 0.80	0.24
European Acc	50.31	53.46	+ 0.60	1.01
STATE STREET UT MGMT LTD 0171 344 7008				
Global A (NZS)	3.658	3.883	- 0.032	1.44
US Ecs (US$)	*2.453*	*2.604*	*+ 0.042*	*.67*
Far East Ecs (yen)	212.20	225.40	- 0.33	
Japan Eqties (yen)	199.70	212.29		
FT Europe	122.20	129.70	- 0.012	1.52
FT N Amer (US$)	1.876	1.989	- 0.044	.35
FT Japan (yen)	197.40	209.70	- 2.32	
FT Asia Exjpn (US$)	2.325	2.470	- 0.034	1.53
STEWART IVORY UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0131 226 3271				
American	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
British #	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Emerging Mkts	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
European	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Japan	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
New Pacific	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
(Accum Units)	375.90	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sy Fixed Acc	241.50	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Mngd Equity	165.00	174.60	[illegible]	[illegible]
Mngd Cash	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
SUN ALLIANCE UNIT TST MGMT LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 383				
Equity	774.10	827.36	[illegible]	[illegible]
North America	121.20	129.60	- 3.45	0.57
Far East	134.20	143.50	- 2.30	0.45
Wwide Bond	57.32	60.85	- 0.23	[illegible]
European	99.67	106.60	+ 1.30	0.17
Equity Income	84.68	90.57	- 0.79	[illegible]
Portfolio	81.35	87.01	+ 0.73	[illegible]
UK Leading Cos	57.78	61.63	- 0.52	[illegible]
Broker Trusts				
Intal Equity	61.73	66.02	- 0.20	
SUN LIFE OF CANADA UT MGRS LTD 0800 525 725				
American Growth	33.29	35.61	+ 0.16	0.90
Managed Acmst	121.33	129.77	+ 1.31	3.92
UK Income	38.83	41.54	+ 0.39	3.33
UK Growth	37.24	39.83	+ 0.39	2.78
Worldwide Growth	33.86	36.22	+ 0.51	0.93
SUN LIFE TRUST MGMT LTD Admin & Enq: 0171 606 4044 Dlg: 0171 606 6010				
Discretionary	45.06	47.94	+ 0.19	.
Cap Protector Inc	39.42	42.16	+ 0.20	2.90
UK Income Inc	48.00	51.34	+ 0.39	3.46
Mngd Extra Inc Inc	31.43	33.61	+ 0.23	3.82
Mngd High Yld Inc	75.34	80.58	+ 0.39	4.24
Mngd Inc/Gth Inc	70.95	75.88	+ 0.50	3.73
UK Smaller Cos	31.91	34.13	+ 0.07	2.05
Pacific Grth Port	43.56	46.59†	+ 0.89	0.58
TSB UNIT TRUSTS 01264 346 794				
American	207.82	219.92	+ 1.85	..
(Accum Units)	228.91	242.23	+ 2.04	..
Brit Growth	91.75	97.09	+ 0.75	2.36
(Accum Units)	110.41	116.83	+ 0.90	2.36
European	100.24	106.07†	+ 0.79	0.78
(Accum Units)	106.59	112.80†	+ 0.84	0.78
Extra Income	180.15	190.63†	+ 1.20	4.66
(Accum Units)	310.26	328.32†	+ 2.07	4.66
Smaller Cos	66.21	70.06†	+ 0.09	1.81
(Accum Units)	74.66	79.01†	+ 0.11	1.81
General	266.21	281.71	+ 2.26	2.76
(Accum Units)	551.04	583.12	+ 4.72	2.76
Premier Income	47.64	49.63	+ 0.37	8.42
(Accum Units)	108.86	113.38	+ 0.84	8.42
Income	310.70	328.78	+ 1.92	4.17
(Accum Units)	681.24	720.89	+ 4.21	4.17
Pacific	381.83	404.05	+ 5.78	..
(Accum Units)	401.20	424.55	+ 6.07	
International	510.84	540.57	+ 5.84	0.36
(Accum Units)	671.72	710.82	+ 7.42	0.36
Nat Resources	146.54	155.07	+ 0.55	..
Stcld Opps	99.29	105.07†	+ 0.88	1.95
(Accum Units)	127.12	134.51†	+ 1.09	1.95
Environmental Inv	59.27	62.71†	+ 0.37	2.02
Selector	58.69	62.18†	+ 0.41	2.39
(Accum Units)	66.19	70.04	+ 0.46	2.39
High Income	60.94	64.49	- 0.50	5.01
(Accum Units)	77.64	82.15	+ 0.64	5.01
Intl Income	57.48	60.82	+ 0.34	5.09
(Accum Units)	70.67	74.78	+ 0.43	5.09
Selector Income	58.32	61.71	+ 0.40	4.56
(Accum Units)	68.49	72.48	+ 0.48	4.56
TU FUND MANAGERS LIMITED 0181 667 1018				
British	307.80	324.00†	+ 2.80	2.93
TEMPLETON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0131 469 4000				
Glob Growth Inc	192.93	208.35	+ 1.41	2.03
Glob Balncd Inc	165.24	178.73	+ 1.56	3.75
Value Tst Inc	117.02	125.16	+ 1.05	1.83
THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD 0171 246 3000 Dealing: 0171 246 3001				
Dresdner Eur Bd	40.02	42.05†	+ 0.22	7.60
European Growth	263.25	278.59†	+ 3.66	0.50
Exempt	501.07	523.96	+ 4.18	3.29
Global Em Mkts	74.38	78.33	+ 1.99	0.49
Japan Tst	74.37	78.01	+ 1.42	.
Little Dragons	82.18	87.63	+ 1.33	.
Nth Amer Gwth	228.17	243.08	+ 1.86	0.60
Oriental Income	42.35	45.17	+ 0.39	2.50
Preference	125.67	134.40	+ 0.13	8.70
Tiger	254.86	271.85	+ 3.90	..
(Accum Units)	267.78	285.61	+ 4.09	..
UK Blue Chip	59.21	63.15	+ 0.47	2.10
UK Growth	479.86	513.32	+ 3.42	2.50
UK High Yield	98.63	105.48	+ 0.63	4.80
(Accum Units)	320.04	342.26	+ 2.06	4.80
UK Mid-Cap	234.86	251.20	+ 1.60	2.50
UK Smlr Cos	94.26	100.81†	+ 0.14	1.20
UK Smlr Cos Dw	82.31	88.03	+ 0.03	5.50
UNITED FRIENDLY UT TST MGMT LTD 01277 690 396				
UK Equity Income	94.38	100.40†	+ 0.49	3.29
UK Equity Growth	83.30	88.62†	+ 0.46	2.63
European	67.94	72.28	+ 0.78	1.22
Nth American	68.95	73.35	+ 0.05	1.13
Far Eastern	67.42	71.72	+ 1.11	0.84
Money	67.38	67.38	+ 0.01	4.67
Fixed Interest	71.34	75.88†	+ 0.68	6.60
Index Linked Gilt	65.04	69.19†	+ 0.43	1.37
WAVERLEY UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0131 225 1551				
Australasian Gold	24.05	25.31	+ 0.19	..
Pacific Basin	41.87	44.07	+ 0.45	..
Global Bond (US$)	0.86	0.90	+ 0.005	.
Penny Share	33.37	35.12	+ 0.36	...
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0171 600 0482				
Challenger	93.99	96.16	+ 0.66	.
Short Dtd Gilt	111.50	113.00	+ 0.60	.
US Govt Bd (US$)	*0.74*	*0.75*	*+ 0.00*	*0.84*
Gilt Income	49.46	51.47	+ 0.37	7.75
Gilt Growth	69.79	72.64	+ 0.62	.
City Reserve	52.22	52.22	+ 0.01	5.75
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0181 298 4000				
Intl Mgd	47.42	50.24	.	1.27
UK Stockmarket	74.94	79.71	.	2.68

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Growth	358.20	372.50	+ 3.70	2.97
(Accum Units)	456.80	485.90	+ 4.90	2.97
MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD 01620 826887				
Balanced Fd #	£12.28	£12.52	..	3.40
Income #	928.30	941.60	..	4.60
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0131 222 4242				
Maldon General	135.40	139.80		4.37
MANULIFE MANAGEMENT LTD Dealings: 01438 747 414				
Growth Units	188.00	201.10	+ 2.50	2.54
Gilt & Fxd Int	164.20	173.00	+ 1.50	6.89
Intl Growth	198.80	211.70	+ 2.20	0.30
North American	177.70	189.50	- 0.80	0.63
Far East	250.80	268.30	+ 5.00	1.03
UK Smaller Cos	160.80	172.00	- 0.40	1.83
European	77.80	82.82	+ 0.92	0.13
Japanese Growth	46.05	49.02	+ 0.93	..
High Income	179.40	191.90	+ 2.30	4.41
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD 01244 680 666				
M & S Inv Ptolio	144.10	151.70	+ 0.80	2.41
-do- Accum	165.80	174.60	+ 0.80	2.41
UK Sel Ptolio	122.40	128.80	+ 0.78	2.66
-do- Accum	142.20	149.70	+ 0.78	2.66
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD 01264 364 842				
Managed Tst	63.24	67.28	..	4.08
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD 0131 479 4646				
Intl Income	67.28	71.42†	+ 0.98	4.57
European	77.58	82.34†	+ 0.80	0.41
Income #	69.67	73.98†	+ 0.83	5.19
Nth American	61.85	65.66	+ 0.42	0.57
Far East	155.90	165.50	+ 0.30	..
Japan	51.14	54.28†	+ 0.79	..
Emrging Mkts	84.73	90.62†	+ 1.83	..
Intl Growth	102.00	108.30	+ 2.0	0.73
UK Growth	85.10	90.34	+ 2.09	1.17
UK Smlr Co	43.20	45.86	+ 0.15	1.08
Asian Opps Fd	34.46	36.86	+ 0.47	0.37
MAYFLOWER MANAGEMENT CO LTD 0171 407 5966				
Income	389.75	414.63†	+ 3.14	4.30
Global Inc	85.20	88.38†	+ 0.40	2.96
Brit Leaders	332.89	353.93†	+ 2.56	2.63
Intl Leaders	195.67	208.16†	+ 1.40	0.79
PAM Mg Bal Gth	58.51	60.79†	+ 0.01	0.89
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD Dealing: 0171 280 2860				
American	197.40	209.40	+ 1.100	
(Accum Units)	211.00	223.90	+ 1.200	.
American Opps	87.65	93.49	+ 0.760	
(Accum Units)	88.75	94.67	+ 0.780	..
British Blue Chip	74.23	78.89	+ 0.710	3.05
(Accum Units)	91.53	97.28	+ 0.830	3.05
Cash	100.70	100.70		6.00
(Accum Units)*	138.40	138.40	+ 0.100	6.00
Emerging Mkts	89.15	95.86	+ 2.080	0.15
(Accum Units)	89.22	95.94	+ 2.080	0.15
European Growth	237.80	251.80	+ 3.000	0.18
(Accum Units)	255.50	270.60	+ 3.300	0.18
European Income	80.96	85.60	+ 1.270	3.85
(Accum Units)	109.10	115.20	+ 1.600	3.35
General	463.80	494.10†	+ 3.700	2.51
(Accum Units)	919.80	979.90†	+ 7.200	2.51
Global Bond	125.60	131.90	+ 0.800	5.24
(Accum Units)	151.30	159.00	+ 1.900	5.24
Gold & General	192.10	206.60	+ 3.200	0.44
(Accum Units)	197.10	211.90	+ 3.100	0.44
Govt Securities	89.11	91.88	+ 0.590	5.97
(Accum Units)	173.50	178.90	+ 1.200	5.97
Income	140.80	148.90†	+ 1.500	4.76
(Accum Units)	220.90	235.00†	+ 2.600	4.76
Inc Portfolio #	91.40	97.06	+ 1.000	5.41
(Accum Units) #	92.44	98.16	+ 1.010	5.41
Intl Opps	428.70	457.50	+ 3.600	0.19
(Accum Units)	574.20	611.10	+ 5.200	0.19
Japan	158.50	168.80	+ 2.700	..
(Accum Units)	163.70	173.50	+ 2.800	..
New Europe	165.10	176.10†	+ 1.600	1.14
(Accum Units)	170.50	181.90†	+ 1.700	1.14
Pacific	106.10	113.20	+ 1.500	0.95
(Accum Units)	113.60	121.20	+ 1.800	0.90
Recovery	271.80	289.10	+ 1.700	0.90
(Accum Units)	345.90	369.00	+ 2.200	0.90
UK Smaller Cos	51.19	54.51†	+ 0.060	0.94
(Accum Units)	57.85	61.71†	+ 0.080	0.94
Portfolio	75.87	80.39	+ 0.710	2.87
(Accum Units)	88.84	94.39	+ 0.840	2.87
Managed Gth	91.69	96.02	+ 0.670	1.96
Managed Inc	98.40	102.10	+ 1.000	4.41
METROPOLITAN UNIT MGRS LTD 01707 662 233				
Eurogrowth Plus	110.34	117.38	+ 1.37	0.92
Portfolio	62.54	66.53	+ 0.67	0.58
UK Income Inc	70.10	74.57†	+ 0.80	5.03
MIDLAND UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD Enq: 0345 456 123 Dlg: 0345 456 126				
Balanced	58.30	61.05	+ 0.39	3.26
(Accum Units)	61.34	64.23	+ 0.41	3.26
British Tst	79.40	83.14†	+ 1.23	2.24
(Accum Units)	93.19	97.58†	+ 1.45	2.24
Extra High Inc	64.56	67.60	+ 0.41	6.63
(Accum Units)	124.80	130.70	+ 0.70	6.63

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD 0171 581 3020				
American Cap	129.70	137.80	+ 0.40	
Income	140.34	149.29	+ 0.90	4.09
UK Growth	51.40	54.67	+ 0.36	0.84
International	69.88	74.33†	+ 0.55	0.08
Ecology	75.80	80.63	+ 0.51	1.33
European	120.17	127.40	+ 0.88	.
Far Eastern	271.40	288.60	+ 2.28	.
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS Dealers: 0171 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Extra Income	46.97	49.97†	+ 0.33	7.70
Gilt Yield	112.39	118.50†	+ 0.70	6.75
Global Income	199.80	212.50†	+ 1.38	4.25
High Yield	129.90	138.20	+ 0.74	5.48
(Accum Units)	393.00	418.10	+ 2.45	8.40
Smllr Cos Div	47.91	50.97†	+ 0.09	3.29
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smllr Cos	86.50	92.02	+ 0.73	
North American	75.18	79.98	+ 0.38	0.16
European Special	103.40	110.00	+ 0.80	0.14
European	146.50	155.90	+ 0.90	0.38
(Accum Units)	192.40	204.70	+ 1.30	0.38
General	259.10	275.60	+ 1.30	3.39
Global Eqty Inc	95.88	102.00	+ 0.90	1.18
Japan	381.80	406.20	+ 6.90	.
Japanese Special	216.60	230.40†	+ 1.70	..
Master Accum	222.80	237.00	+ 1.40	0.58
Pacific	303.30	322.70	+ 3.90	
(Accum Units)	355.70	378.40	+ 4.50	...
Smaller Cos	100.80	107.20		0.84
UK Equity Growth	37.45	39.84†	- 1.04	1.63
KNIGHT WILLIAMS PRTFOL MGRS 0171 629 1693				
Global Inc & Gth	58.67	62.41	+ 0.70	.
Inv Trust	61.10	65.00	+ 0.50	...
Cautious Inc/Gth	55.82	59.38	+ 0.53	1.50
High Inc Acc	53.15	56.54	+ 0.31	4.00
L & C UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0171 588 2800				
Income	526.80	549.80†	..	6.17
Intl & General	383.00	390.80†	..	0.01
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT 0171 407 5966				
Gudge Income	248.80	264.68	+ 1.45	5.87
Inc & Growth Inc	51.78	55.09	+ 0.33	4.92
Smaller Cos	53.82	56.40	+ 0.25	1.45
LAURENTIAN UNIT TST MGMT LTD Enq: 01452 371 500 Dlg: 01452 371 623				
Growth Trust	231.30	246.70	+ 1.30	2.01
High Income	100.50	106.90	+ 0.50	4.69
International	91.62	97.46	+ 0.83	0.64
Recovery Trust	59.55	63.35	+ 0.38	1.56
European Trust	76.78	81.68†	+ 0.04	0.68
Japanese Trust	41.05	43.67†	+ 1.02	...
American Trust	83.47	88.79	+ 0.31	0.48
Managed	63.14	67.18†	+ 0.32	0.87
Cash	51.50	51.50	+ 0.01	4.32
LAZARD UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0171 374 0918				
UK Cap	340.80	347.20		2.83
UK Inc/Gth	357.50	375.00		3.58
UK Income	256.40	268.60		4.44
UK Sm Cos	219.80	228.50	..	2.14
Euro Gwth	118.70	119.50		.
N Amer Gwth	80.82	81.68		0.24
Japan Growth	80.47	81.12	..	...
Money Mkt	123.03	123.03		1.500
LEGAL & GENERAL (UT MGRS) LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 395				
Equity Dist	442.70	471.00†	+ 3.70	2.78
(Accum Units)	880.00	936.20†	+ 7.40	2.78
Equity Income	91.64	97.49	+ 0.82	4.29
UK Tactical Allocts	53.25	56.55†	+ 0.34	3.14
European	110.86	118.00†	+ 1.50	0.99
Far Eastern	200.30	213.10	+ 2.60	...
Fixed Interest	49.84	53.02†	+ 0.38	6.90
Gilt	87.44	92.73	+ 0.73	8.71
Global Growth	68.73	73.12	+ 0.88	0.11
Intl Bond	51.15	54.35†	+ 0.21	5.19
Japanese	68.29	72.65	+ 1.25	
North American	142.80	151.90†	+ 0.88	1.04
Pacific Growth	99.64	106.00	+ 1.50	0.42
UK Index	50.25	52.53	+ 0.52	3.26
UK Recovery	84.83	90.35	+ 0.12	1.98
UK Smaller Cos	113.40	120.60	+ 0.30	1.57
US Index	59.83	63.14	+ 0.45	1.79
European Index	71.46	75.42†	+ 0.92	1.59
Japan Index	39.85	42.06	+ 0.91	...
Worldwide	78.33	83.33	+ 0.66	1.58
LINCOLN NATIONAL 0181 982 8076 Dealing: 0800 282 621				
Growth	47.59	50.98	- 0.32	2.24
Income	55.59	59.45	- 0.24	3.12
Far East	49.09	52.50	+ 1.03	.
North American	92.55	98.97	+ 0.82	.
Global	86.40	92.41†	+ 1.19	0.34
European	81.20	86.84†	+ 0.78	0.69
Japan	102.40	109.50	+ 1.80	.
Intl Currency Bd	58.63	62.30	+ 0.27	3.90
SE Asia	92.87	99.33	+ 1.83	...
UK Cap Growth	87.35	93.42	+ 0.66	1.61
LLOYDS BK UNIT TST MGRS LTD Helpdesk: 01634 834 309 Dealing: 01634 834 313				
Balanced	321.40	342.00	- 0.70	3.07
-do- Acc	730.70	777.40	- 1.90	3.07

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Source: Finstat

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return); † Ex dividend; ‡ Middle price; .. No significant data. # Periodic Charge deducted from capital; @ Exit Charge

ACCOUNTANCY

Let investors have a say

Lesley Drummond looks at the issue of accounting standards compliance

Ask the average financial controller in an owner-managed business with sales of less than £2.8 million about applying the complexities of accounting standards on leasing, pension costs and investment properties on annual accounts and you are likely to hear complaints.

Others are likely to become uneasy at the proposals published by a working party of the Consultative Committee of Accountancy Bodies (CCAB), *Exemptions from Standards on the Grounds of Size or Public Interest*, which offer what is almost a blanket exemption from accounting standards to all companies with turnover of under £2.8 million.

Accounting standards provide that annual accounts will be prepared consistently on a basis that will reflect accurately the company's progress.

In its response to the CCAB paper, the accounting standards committee of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland has proposed that shareholders in small companies should still be able to request compliance with accounting standards.

The institute acknowledges the importance of finding a balance between public interest and shareholder protection and deregulation initiatives. It favours deregulation, but believes it must not be at the expense of tipping the balance against shareholder protection. As a means of achieving this balance, the institute recommends that shareholders should have the ability to require full compliance with accounting standards.

Requiring 100 per cent shareholder agreement for non-compliance with accounting standards would protect all shareholders, but could be regarded as unrealistic. Shareholder agreement at 90 per cent would tie in with the audit exemption requirements where, if 10 per cent of the shareholders request an audit, even if the company is exempt from audit, one will have to be performed. Equally, a provision for 75 per cent shareholder agreement would tie in with a number of other Companies Act requirements where a special resolution is required.



Drummond: backs investors

The institute recommends that the exemptions will not apply to some public interest companies, for example certain charities.

In attempting to forge a reformed, deregulated regime that continues to offer shareholders adequate protection, the institute takes issue with the working party's proposed "bottom up" approach since it believes it does not differentiate between the measurement and the disclosure elements of accounting standards.

Instead, the institute favours a "top down" approach that will eliminate certain disclosure elements of certain standards from being mandatory to small companies and will also identify where specific measurement standards can properly be excluded.

Subject to these exclusions, measurement issues of standards should continue to apply to all companies or the managerial benefits of the accounting information may be lost and external parties, including creditors, may lose the reassurance they currently receive from accounts that comply with measurement issues.

Finally, the working party should establish that its proposals will be accepted by organisations and groups such as the Inland Revenue and banks. Unless their support can be confirmed, it is questionable whether the burden on small companies will be reduced, even if accounting standards no longer applied.

The author is an assistant director of accounting and auditing at The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland

Robert Bruce on reporting tax liabilities

Cutting back on the flexibility

IT WAS the sort of thing that Sir David Tweedie, the Accounting Standards Board chairman, relishes. Last October, the strategy and economics team at Hoare Govett put out a research document, *Tweedie's Tax Bombshell*. This dealt with the choices that lay ahead for the ASB on the methods of reporting tax liabilities and, in particular, deferred tax.

It said: "Given Sir David Tweedie's revealed preference for the 'commitment-based' provisioning practised in America, rather than the 'decision-based' provisioning which leaves management with discretion, he may well pursue the radical option. If he were to do so, this would reduce reported earnings for the whole market by around 10 per cent."

In an ASB discussion paper, Sir David has done just that. And the effects for some companies could prove devastating. Terry Smith, an analyst at Collins Stewart, issued figures recently that suggested it would mean a 36 per cent fall in earnings per share at British Airways, for example, and large falls among utilities.

Tax is not the sort of area that the interested observer of UK companies would expect to be potentially devastating. But the reason is simple. The ASB remains true to its aims of trying to get companies to report what is happening. The problem is that the current system of accounting for deferred taxation is subjective and is reckoned generally to be unauditable. It also provides huge anomalies for the largest companies when it comes to reporting under both UK and US generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

As the Hoare Govett research puts it, "under current procedures, provision needs to be made for deferred tax only to the extent that it is probable that a liability will crystallise in the future. This offers companies flexibility and results in lower deferred-tax provisions in balance sheets and lower tax charges against earnings compared to the US GAAP."

The proposals put forward by the ASB in *Accounting for Tax* both attempt to cut back on the flexibility and try to bring the rules into line with those used in the US. The whole problem arises from the difference between the profit in a set of accounts and the profit figure on which tax will be assessed.

UK entertainment expenditure, for example, is a cost that would reduce reported profit but is disallowed for tax purposes. Of such small differences do huge anomalies arise. These can then be argued over and, in the UK, used for smoothing profits. If you can argue the deferred tax is unlikely to become a reality in the near future, then you can avoid having to report it this year as a liability.

This is the flexibility that the ASB seeks to cut back on. At present, company directors have only to make a plausible case and they can keep the liability out of the reporting of the current year's figures. The ASB paper says: "It is possible to reduce the current year's tax charge simply by assuming an increase in future capital expenditure. Some users of financial statements have indicated to the board that, for this reason, they sometimes find it difficult to accept the tax charges and liabilities of UK companies at face value."

The other argument is that it would bring the UK system into line with that of the US. What is known as "the full-provisioning" method would do this. The other two methods discussed would not. And while there is no reason why adopting a system that harmonises with the US system is essential, it is more likely to be of use to companies in the long run as they seek to tap international capital markets.

All this change is some way off. All the ASB wants at the moment are comments. At the moment, it "on balance recommends adoption of the full provision method". It may be that public hearings will be required eventually to clarify matters.

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THEATRE page 30
Sian Thomas and Phyllida Law star in a haunting tragi-comedy at the Almeida

ARTS

CD DIRECT page 31
The great Italian conductor Carlo Maria Giulini is this month's featured artist



CINEMA: **Geoff Brown** is enchanted by *Little Women*, turns a deaf ear to Beethoven and joins a priest's 'outing'

Respect for women's rites

Little Women
Odeon Leicester Square, U, 118 mins
Fresh edition of the children's classic

Immortal Beloved
Empire, 15, 120 mins
Strangely dull life of Beethoven

Priest
Curzon West End, 15, 106 mins
Overwrought drama about a gay Catholic priest

Eden Valley
ICA Cinematheque, 15, 100 mins
Raw slice of life from northeast England

I.Q.
Empire, U, 96 mins
Synthetic comedy

Oh Jo, don't say 'awful', it's slang!" says Meg, eldest of Louisa May Alcott's girls in **Little Women**, filmed for the sixth time in a sumptuous production by Gillian Armstrong. For modern moviegoers uttering the word "awful" carries all the penalties of saying boo to a goose, so the line gives a strong indication that *Little Women* takes place in remote times, even on a remote planet.

Masculine types might think that five previous versions — two silents, the 1933 classic with Katharine Hepburn, the 1949 bore, and one forgettable television movie — were sufficient. But with Hollywood dusting off any and every children's classic, Alcott's book deserves a new life.

Especially in Armstrong's hands: the Australian director of *My Brilliant Career* makes us feel right at home with the moral values and customs of New England in the late 1860s. Contemporary feelings are not forgotten, either. Whenever the feminist angle can be heightened, it is. But nothing is distorted. The tale is told.

Having a superlative cast helps. No amount of talk can make Winona Ryder's Jo March appear plain, but she has the right headstrong spirit, and echoes of her modern roles as a feisty adolescent only add extra resonance. The other young ladies, including Trini Alvarado as Meg, and Claire Danes as the shy, fragile Beth, chime equally well with their parts.

Susan Sarandon is the saintly Mrs March, who keeps the home together while her husband serves in the Civil War. Her appearances are brief, but she makes each one count and never lets her homilies become cardboard pieties. As for the menfolk, neither Alcott nor Armstrong give them top billing, but Gabriel Byrne, Eric Stoltz and Christian Bale flesh out their roles with sensitivity.

Visually, *Little Women* is a constant, if conventional, delight. We progress through the seasons, from Christmas snow through to autumn foliage. If the film's emotions had been stillborn, the prettiness might grate. But the images never bury the characters and the pangs in their hearts.

Perhaps Armstrong's secret weapon is her pacing. Nothing is forced, no matter how close the material steers towards outright melodrama. On Beth's death, the family nurse scatters petals over her pillows and dolls: a simple moment but an occasion for moist eyes, mine included. This new *Little Women* is an unexpected triumph. Even the 1933 version must look to its laurels.

It is usually comedies that start with the reading of a will, not musical biographies. But Bernard Rose's **Immortal Beloved** has a reason for gathering together Beethoven's intimates after the funeral parade. A letter is found: all music, all monies to go to "my sole heir . . . my Immortal Beloved". Who is she, or he? In Rose's script, Anton Schindler assumes the Joseph Cotten role in *Citizen Kane* and trawls through the past to solve the enigma.

There are three main candidates for the Immortal Beloved, none of them championed by Beethoven scholars. But most cinemagoers will not be troubled by Rose's conjectures. For a far greater enigma looms: how can a film about Beethoven from a flashy director and starring Gary Oldman ever be boring?

The curse of high art, I suppose. When Rose makes a horror film such as *Paperhouse*, he lets rip a gaudy imagination. When Oldman plays gun-toting American scumbags, his enjoyment is palpable. Here, both are on their best behaviour. Oldman's performance is entirely decent, if you accept the script's caricature of Beethoven as a perennially boorish, raging genius; but you feel you are watching an animated waxwork, not a human being.

Rose restricts his virtuoso instincts for moments such as the climactic reverie, accompanied by the *Ode to Joy*, in which the composer floats in the twinkling heavens. Ken Russell would approve. The rest has that bland Euro-pudding taste, with multinational actors trotting around Prague (a stand-in for Vienna). Jeroen Krabbe appears as Schindler, while Johanna Ter Steege, Valeria Golino and Isabella Rossellini head the Immortal Beloved shortlist.

The soundtrack boasts one bold stunt: a subjective evocation of Beethoven's deafness, the music sounding muffled, out of synch. Elsewhere we hear Sir Georg Solti, the London Symphony Orchestra and soloists loud and clear (with the accent on loud). Cognoscenti will note how Beethoven's period piano produces the sounds of a modern concert grand. But the film was not made for the authenticity brigade. I am not sure who the audience is, unless a following exists for outmoded, romantic biographies and films laid low by their own dull ambitions.

"Do something, don't just hang there, you smug, idle bastard!" A tortured, gay Catholic cleric addresses these words to a Crucifix looming from a vicarage wall. With moments like that, no wonder Antonia Bird's film Priest has raised eyebrows. It has also swept audiences away; at festivals on both sides of the Atlantic people have stood, cheered, wept, and almost clapped their hands off.

The film's emotional pull is undeniable. The hero (Linus Roache) is a naive, priggish young priest who comes up to Liverpool to toil in the inner city. For a time he suffers the usual problems naive prigs attract. Then he fetches black leather out of the wardrobe, and cycles to a gay bar.



Winona Ryder as Jo in Gillian Armstrong's triumphant remake of *Little Women*

Torment follows, especially when his secret life becomes public. Parishioners are apoplectic, but his fellow priest preaches compassion, and the soundtrack chips in with *You'll Never Walk Alone*. Humanity three, hypocrisy nil.

To succumb to this onslaught, though, you have to forgive a lot of faults. Bird's directorial work improves on her television film *Safe*, but she still bullies material that would flourish better in gentler hands, and any visual felicities are intermittent. Jimmy McGovern's script comes well stocked with venom and caustic humour but packs in characters like sardines: a residue of its original conception as a four-part television series. And while supporting characters such as Tom Wilkinson's down-to-earth Father Matthew jangle with life, Linus Roache makes the hero an unappealing cold fish.

Since it is rare to find a British film that stirs emotions, not cups of tea, *Priest* deserves one rousing cheer. It gives audiences something to bite on, which you cannot say for **Eden Valley**, one of the Amber Films collective's dramatised slabs of life in northeast England. The wintry skies are beautiful, the people look real; so do the horses (the story concerns harness racing and an uneasy relationship between father and son). But the film is so determined to avoid any commercial excitement that it slips from your grip.

I.Q. is a winsome little comedy, funny as far as it goes, which is only about 3ft. The place and time is Princeton in the 1950s. The university's prize genius, Albert Einstein (Walter Matthau), is concerned that his egghead niece, Meg Ryan, will marry an unctuous, conniving psychologist (Stephen Fry, alive and well on the silver screen). So he endeavours to engineer a love match with Tim Robbins's garage employee.

Andy Breckman, the script's deviser, claims allegiance to past masters of Hollywood comedy such as Capra and Preston Sturges. The roles would certainly suit their stars. You can see Jean Arthur, intelligent, obstinate, in Meg Ryan's role; James Stewart would be the good-natured, ordinary Joe. But nothing can recapture the old films' natural, breezy spirit. While pleasant enough, *I.Q.*, directed by Fred Schepisi, is far too conscious of being cute.

Can Hollywood learn the score?

So Gary Oldman, who once played Sid Vicious, is Beethoven in *Immortal Beloved*. Par for the course, *Geoff Brown writes*. But the life of a great composer is a subject that can bring out the best and worst in Hollywood. If you want to make a bad film, composers make sitting targets. A good film is more difficult. I offer the following lists for your consideration:

HARMONY

■ **AMADEUS** *(1984)*: Tom Hulce's Mozart first appears an American brat, but grows less wearing. Milos Forman's film builds into a compelling and darkly comic story of glorious music and human infamy.

■ **THE CHRONICLE OF ANNA MAGDALENA BACH** *(1968)*: J. S. Bach portrayed by that scholarly musician Gustav Leonhardt suits the minimalist style of director Jean-Marie Straub. Bach's social context comes through clearly. Beautiful and moving.

■ **A SONG OF SUMMER** *(1968)*: Ken Russell has made many of the worst musical biographies but also a few of the best. This Delius portrait, featuring Max Adrian, strikes a balance between the composer's dreamy melancholy and Russell's exuberance.

■ **32 SHORT FILMS ABOUT GLENN GOULD** *(1993)*: Francois Girard presents the composer/pianist's life with such insight, humour and imagination that it demands inclusion.

■ **TOUS LES MATINS DU MONDE** *(1992)*: Alain Corneau's mesmerising portrait of Baroque musician Sainte-Colombe and his pupil Marin Marais (played at different ages by Gérard and Guillaume Depardieu). A wonderful surprise.

DISCORD

■ **THE GREAT MR HANDEL** *(1942)*: No wig can turn the eccentric Wilfrid Lawson into Handel. And no Technicolor or Christian uplift can raise the spirits as this film made for Rank's inspirational division plods on its way.

■ **LISZTOMANIA** *(1975)*: Ken Russell goes bananas, pouring out kitsch and juvenile fantasies with Roger Daltrey (Liszt), Paul Nicholas (Wagner) and a flatulent rock score arranged by Rick Wakeman. Almost unwatchable.

■ **SONG OF LOVE** *(1947)*: In an era ripe with musical hogwash, this MGM drama about those bothersome Schumanns (Katharine Hepburn and Paul Henried) and their friend Brahms must be the worst. No unintentional laughs: it sits on the screen and dies.

■ **SONG OF NORWAY** *(1970)*: Toralv Maurstad is the chap playing Grieg, but he pales beside the endless scenery, the ridiculous script and the fatuous musical adaptation by the *Kismet* team of Wright and Forrest.

■ **SONG WITHOUT END** *(1960)*: And the film follows suit, as Liszt travels around Europe thrilling the ladies. Dirk Bogarde and the sets are both very pretty, but they act as morticians, touching up a corpse.

4 ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATIONS
BEST PICTURE
BEST DIRECTOR • ROBERT REDFORD
BEST ADAPTED SCREENPLAY • BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR PAUL SCOFIELD
3 BAFTA NOMINATIONS • BEST FILM
BEST ADAPTED SCREENPLAY • BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR PAUL SCOFIELD
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TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

LONDON

WOMEN OF TROY: Opening night for Annie Castledine's new production of Euripides's intense and poignant tragedy, translated by Kenneth McLeish. Jane Birkin comes back to the English-speaking theatre to play Andromache, with Rosemary Harris as Hecuba.
National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Tonight, 7pm. Then Fri-Mon, 7.15pm; mat Sat, 2pm

20TH-CENTURY MUSIC: The Nash Ensemble continues its month-long series with two commissioned world premieres tonight: Elena Firsova's *Before the Thunderstorm, Op 70* and a revised version of Tavener's *Akhmatova Songs*. Also on offer are works from Shostakovich and Edison Denisov and there is a free pre-concert event with Tavener and Firsova.
Purcell Room, South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 8800). Tonight, 7.30pm.

CECILE OUSSET: Expect the sparks to fly when the exuberant French pianist Ousset takes to the stage with a two-night all-Ravel programme.
Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street, W1 (0171-935 2141). Tonight and Sat, 7.30pm.

ELSEWHERE

BIRMINGHAM: Barbara Bonney and Philip Langridge join Simon Rattle and the London Sinfonietta for **Les Mamelles de Tirésias**, perhaps the funniest opera written this century. Poulenc's gender-bending tale of runaway breasts is set to a dazzling series of music hall waltzes and polkas, with the action carried to the irresistible final invitation to "have more children". As part of the Towards the Millennium series
Symphony Hall, Broad Street (0121-212 3333). Tonight, 7.30pm. Tomorrow in **London**, Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank (0171-928 8800).

DORNOCH: Scottish Opera continues its innovative, local venue *Essential Scottish Opera* tour, giving four budding stars a chance to perform repertoire favourites from *The Magic Flute, Don Giovanni, La Bohème, Die Fledermaus* and *Rigoletto*.
Cathedral (01862 810165). Tonight, 7.30pm. Then Sat, **Inverness**, Town House (01463 231219).

NORWICH: Jenny Agutter stays with the new RSC cast for a tour of Ian Judge's pleasing production of **Love's Labour's Lost**. The first of two UK stops follow a brief season at the Barbican before Tokyo in April.
Theatre Royal, Theatre Street (01603 630000). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm

WOKING: More than a dozen companies are taking part in a three-week dance frenzy that is Woking's contribution to **Dance Umbrella**. The unusual and often provocative American choreographer Mark Morris is the first scoop, bringing his company for its first English tour this week. Another particular treat will be Scottish Ballet's new production of *Swan Lake*; there are free open-air events besides the professional shows in several halls.
New Victoria, Peacock Arts Centre (01483 761144). *Morris*: Tonight-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 2.30 and 8pm. Until Apr 2

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: Contemporary Print Show, (0171-638 4141) ... **British Museum:** Byzantine Treasures from British Collections (0171-636 1555) ... **Courtauld:** Frank Dobson, Sculpture 1915-1954 (071-873 2526) .. **Hayward:** Yves Klein (071-928 3144) **National Gallery:** Spanish Still Life: from Velásquez to Goya (0171-839 3321) .. **National Portrait Gallery:** The Road from 1945 (0171-306 0055) **Royal Academy:** Odilon Redon (0171-439 7438) ... **Tate:** Willem de Kooning (0171-887 8000) .. **V & A:** Warworks: Women, Photography and the Art of War, final week (0171-938 8500) ... **Whitechapel:** Kiki Smith (0171-522 7888)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◩ Some seats available
□ Seats at all prices

◩ **AIN'T MISBEHAVIN':** The hit Fats Waller musical show comes into the West End, packed with tuneful numbers and dancing energy.
Lyric, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 5pm

□ **BROKEN GLASS:** Arthur Miller's masterly drama, distilling his lifelong concern with personal responsibility. David Thacker's production, with Henry Goodman and Margot Leicester superb as the central Jewish couple
Duke of York's, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-836 5122). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

□ **CONVERSATIONS WITH MY FATHER:** Judd Hirsch re-creates his Tony Award-winning performance in Herb Gardner's play, covering 40 years of Jewish experience in New York. *When all's told, it's fairly thin stuff*
Old Vic, Waterloo Road, SE1 (0171-928 7616). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm.

■ **DEALER'S CHOICE:** Patrick Marber's fascinating poker drama. Funny one-liners abound, along with perceptions of the roots of gambling.
National (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm.

□ **DESIGN FOR LIVING:** Rachel Weisz, Rupert Graves and Marcus D'Amico in Coward's *ménage à trois* comedy. Sean Mathias's award-winner, with even more sexual rough and tumble than at the Donmar.
Gielgud, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 4pm.

□ **IN PRAISE OF LOVE:** Peter Bowles and Lisa Harrow in Rattigan drama about bravely facing death. Interesting and finally touching as it shows the effects, ill and good, of emotional restraint.
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 5pm.

◩ **INDIAN INK:** Felicity Kendal, Art Malik and Margaret Tyzack in Tom Stoppard's latest, wittily, poignantly, exploring aspects of Anglo-Indian resentments and respect. Peter Wood directs.
Aldwych, Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6003). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

□ **KILLER JOE:** Utterly absorbing shock-drama by Tracy Letts where a trash-trailer family virtually annihilates itself by employing a hit-man to kill their unwanted Mom. Wilson Milam directs the original Chicago production.
Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987). Mon-Sat, 8pm.

□ **THE LIVE BED SHOW:** Arthur Smith's revised version of his 1989 Edinburgh Festival comedy: Caroline Quentin and Paul Merton play a couple on their journey towards sharing a bed
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085). Mon-Thurs, 8pm; Fri and Sat, 6.30pm and 8.45pm.

■ **PORTRAIT OF A WOMAN:** Michel Vinaver's murder-trial drama where figures from the past of the accused (Lucy Tregear) try to fit her crime into some re-assuring system of cause and effect. Sam Walters directs an excellent cast.
Orange Tree, Clarence Street, Richmond (0181-940 3633). Tonight-Sat, 7.45pm, mats today, 2.30pm and Sat, 4pm. Final week.

□ **THE STRIP:** Phyllis Nagy's new play follows sundry oddballs converging on Las Vegas. Don't expect great linear progression; enjoy it as a post-modernist mosaic. Steven Pimlott directs Cheryl Campbell, Nicholas Farrell and Nicholas le Prevost.
Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (0171-730 1745). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 3.30pm. Until Apr 7.

□ **STUFFED SHIRTS & MARIONETTES:** Ingeniously staged exploration by Public Parts of Ellen Ternan's life as the mistress of Charles Dickens, though the emphasis on Victorian prostitution feels overdone.
Warehouse, Dingwall Road, East Croydon (0181-680 4060). Tonight-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 5pm. Final week.

LONG RUNNERS

□ **Arcadia:** Haymarket (0171-930 8800) ... □ **Buddy:** Victoria Palace (0171-834 1317) ... □ **Copacabana:** Prince of Wales (0171-839 5972) ... □ **Crazy for You:** Prince Edward (0171-734 8951) ... ◩ **Grease:** Dominion (0171-416 6060) ... ◩ **Les Misérables:** Palace (0171-434 0909) ... ◩ **Miss Saigon:** Theatre Royal (0171-494 5400) ... ◩ **My Night With Reg:** Criterion (0171-839 4488) ■ **Oliver!:** Palladium (0171-494 5020) ◩ **A Passionate Woman:** Comedy (0171-369 1731) ... ◩ **She Loves Me:** Savoy (0171-836 8888) ... ◩ **Starlight Express:** Apollo Victoria (0171-828 8665) ... ◩ **Sunset Boulevard:** Adelphi (0171-344 0055) ... ■ **Three Tall Women:** Wyndhams (0171-369 1736) ... ◩ **The Woman in Black:** Fortune (836 2238)
Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

◆ **DISCLOSURE** (18): Michael Douglas says no to Demi Moore. Superficially enjoyable version of Michael Crichton's sexual harassment novel. Director, Barry Levinson.
Barbican (0171-638 8891) **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** (0171-434 0031) **Notting Hill Coronet** (0171-727 6705) **Odeon Marble Arch** (01426 914501) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

I LOVE A MAN IN UNIFORM (18): Cop show actor loses grip on reality. Striking Canadian film from director David Wellington, with Tom McCamus. **Metro** (071-437 0757)

MRS. PARKER AND THE VICIOUS CIRCLE (15): Alan Rudolph's melancholy and witty portrait of Dorothy Parker and her era. Compelling performances from Jennifer Jason Leigh and a well-chosen cast.
Chelsea (0171-351 3742) **Curzon Mayfair** (0171-369 1720) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402) **Richmond** (0181-332 0030) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **NELL** (12): Doctor Liam Neeson nurtures backwoods wild child Jodie Foster. Well acted, well meant, but glutinous. Director, Michael Apted.
MGMs: Baker Street (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332)

S.F.W. (18): Thin, raucous satire on America's fetish for celebrities. Jefery Levy directs Stephen Dorff and Reese Witherspoon.
MGM Piccadilly (071-437 3561)

THE SILENCES OF THE PALACE: Powerful portrait of a servant girl's life in the Tunisian royal palace. A notable debut by director Moufida Tlatli.
ICA (0171-930 3647)

◆ **WAGONS EAST!** (PG): Feeble comedy set in the old West, only notable as John Candy's last film.
MGM Trocadero (0171-434 0031) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

CURRENT

HEAVENLY CREATURES (18): Strange, fatal friendship of two New Zealand teenagers. Compelling, imaginative, true-life drama from director Peter Jackson
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **Lumiere** (0171-836 0691) **MGM Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Phoenix** (0181-883 2233) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402)

◆ **NATURAL BORN KILLERS** (18): Warped lovers embark on a shooting rampage, with the media in pursuit. Wearisome excess from director Oliver Stone
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **MGM Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Mezzanine** (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **ONLY YOU** (PG): Comedy, romance and Italian travelogue with Marisa Tomei and Robert Downey Jr. Director, Norman Jewison.
Odeon Mezzanine (01426 915683)

◆ **PRET-A-PORTER** (15): Surprisingly feeble satire on the fashion world from Robert Altman. With Kim Basinger, Sophia Loren, Marcello Mastroianni, Stephen Rea and many others.
Electric (0171-792 2020) **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332)

◆ **QUIZ SHOW** (15): Director Robert Redford resurrects a TV scandal of the late 1950s. Fine performances (John Turturro, Ralph Fiennes, Paul Scofield), but not enough bite, or relevance.
Barbican (0171-638 8891) **Gate** (0171-727 4043) **MGM Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Haymarket** (01426 915353) **Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Screen/Hill** (0171-435 3366) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **THE RIVER WILD** (12): Criminals imperil a family on their white water rafting holiday. Enjoyable action thriller, with Meryl Streep and Kevin Bacon.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **Empire** (0800 888911) **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** (0171-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332)

◆ **SHALLOW GRAVE** (18): Wickedly enjoyable comedy-thriller about three Edinburgh chums and a corpse loaded with money. Danny Boyle directs.
MGMs: Fulham Road (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Shaftesbury Avenue** (0171-836 6279) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **THE SHAWSHANK REDEMPTION:** How to survive long decades in prison: engrossing drama with Tim Robbins and Morgan Freeman.
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◆ **STARGATE** (PG): Galactic adventures of Kurt Russell and James Spader. Preposterous, derivative but fun; Roland Emmerich directs.
MGM Trocadero (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Mezzanine** (01426 915683)

THEATRE: Sharman Macdonald's new play comes to London; a gay drama from America

Paired off for a night of big chills

The Winter Guest
Almeida

EVEN the set seems to be trying to make us shiver. On one side is the buff-coloured stairwell of a gaunt, gloomy house; and on the other a black promenade disappears in a thin, yellowy sky while below it bits of grey stone taper into a misty, silvery sea. Robin Don is credited with the design and Peter Mumford with the lighting; but this Scots resort might have been painted by Turner or composed by Sibelius or both. Add two women in black, waiting for a bus that comes with roughly the frequency of Godot, and we have a suitably desolate *mise-en-scène* for a play which, while not lacking in life, is much preoccupied with death.

Both Sharman Macdonald's writing and Alan Rickman's direction won pretty universal applause when *The Winter Guest* was first staged in Leeds in January: and I am not going to add a discordant note now that it has transferred to Islington. Be warned, though, that in some ways the play has more in common with a Nordic tone-poem or a pre-Impressionist painting than with drama as it is usually defined. Four separate pairs of characters drift on and off, each preoccupied with its own concerns and only occasionally making as much as eye-contact with anyone outside its orbit. Instead of a plot or story, that means we get short, suggestive episodes, charged moments, and lots of tragi-comic atmosphere.

The ladies in black (Sheila Reid and Sandra Voe) spend their days going to funerals and, by way of giving thanks that nobody has yet shoved them underground, gorging on cream cakes afterwards. Below them, an awkward teenager (Christian Zanone) allows himself to be picked up by a footloose girl (Arlene Cockburn), then takes her home for a bath and, he hopes, a grope. This is the least fully explored of the pairings, however, and is certainly less absorbing than those comprising two younger boys and an elderly mother and her recently widowed daughter.

As she showed in her *When I Was a Girl I Used to Scream and Shout*, Macdonald takes a special interest both in young people discovering their sexuality and in the tensions between women of different generations. Hence John Wark's Tom and Anthony O'Donnell's Sam, truants from school camouflaging their anxieties about the future in four-letter bravado and, in Tom's case, smothering the genitals with some awful, searing ointment in hopes of making them mature faster. Hence Phyllida Law's Elspeth and Sian Thomas's Frances, severed by the bonds of family as only a mother and a daughter can be.

If a play of four quarters can be said to have a centre, this is it. Helped by a performance of quiet despair from an excellent Thomas and one of garrulous, slovenly desperation from the superb Law, Macdonald is able to think and feel her way into both women's heads. You can see why the confused and contradictory mix of blame, demands, offhandedness, disappointment, rudeness and love that Elspeth directs at Frances drives Frances half-mad. You can also sense the loneliness and the fear of death behind it.

The play's title emphasises what these human snippets have in common. Unlike Mozart's stone variety, Macdonald's winter guest makes no appearance, but his chilling hand extends from the lady in black who has heard one Scots funeral sermon too many ("are we maggots in the slime, is that all we are?") to a boy slithering out too far on the offshore ice. This is a funny, touching, rather beautiful play: in the most literal sense, a haunting piece of writing.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

DONALD COOPER



Phyllida Law and Sian Thomas: mother and daughter in Macdonald's *Winter Guest*

An outing of buddies

Burning Blue
King's Head, N1

THIS American drama is like a blockbuster buddy movie, only it is in the theatre, simply set against battleship grey.

Lieutenants Lynch, Stephenson, Blackwood and Trumbo are high-flying fighter pilots in the US Navy: the ones with the supercool uniforms and nine Gs of thrust. They are a team, just like Special Agents Cokely and Jones, the white and black detective duo who are investigating a case of intruders in the Navy's midst. The lieutenants talk the lingo, spar in the locker room, have pretty women, down beers and do rowdy cancans. In a critical survival situation, they execute textbook ejections and, of course, stand by each other.

Only some of these guys are gay. These are the men Cokely is trying to catch. *Burning Blue*, by former Naval pilot D. M. W. Greer — a very good debut — explores homosexuality in the armed forces. Greer exposes bigotry within the institution, down to the homophobia of best friends, that one would like to think was unbelievable, but is apparently based on a real case.

This play is particularly interesting in its focus on the uncertain territory between hetero and homosexuality (Lynch is married) and in the surprises it pulls concerning who turns cold shoulders or shows sympathy when Lynch finally comes out. It is a strongly structured piece, with character twists and authentic dialogue. That said, Greer's chaps cannot always resist speechmaking, as issue-conscious protagonists or block-buster heroes. It can also get soppy. I know Greer is exposing the self-oppression of the stiff-upper-lip brigade, but did everyone at the show-down have to be having a good cry?

I am not sure *Burning Blue* is not a closet film-script, but this workshop staging, with formation flying on four wooden chairs, is highly successful. John T. Hickok directs his outstanding cast with strong clarity and terrific Method detailing, from the acutely observed machismo of louder-than-normal speech to the running sweat of post-work-out conversations. Beautiful performances from almost everyone, particularly Martin McDougall as Trumbo, squatly butch then brilliantly sardonic and protective, and Robert Dirske as the sexy, tender and stressed Blackwood — though maybe I could have seen his perfect torso one less time.

KATE BASSETT

JAZZ

In full swing

Scott Hamilton
Pizza Express,
Dean Street, W1

THE jazz world prides itself on its hospitality to all varieties of artistic self-expression, so the deep-rooted ambivalence discernible in initial critical reaction to the American tenor player Scott Hamilton was disturbing. He came to prominence in the mid-1970s, a particularly low point in jazz history, when the music was struggling to maintain its identity in the face of all-conquering rock and was riven with internal arguments over the respective merits of, say, free form and fusion. Hamilton saw the intrinsic worth of his playing passed over in favour of point-scoring in a factional war.

For many, the spectacle of a man in his early twenties playing in a style made popular by Ben Webster, Coleman Hawkins and Illinois Jacquet was simply irresistible; Hamilton became the unwitting receptacle of all the hopes and ambitions of the many adherents of mainstream jazz. This was despite his frequent assertions — borne out by his playing — that he was as heavily influenced by the harmonic language of bebop pioneer Charlie Parker as by the tone and overall approach of the great swing masters.

Now that some of the smoke has cleared and all styles are more readily accommodated within a broad church appropriate to the 1990s, Hamilton's music can be more readily appreciated solely in terms of his own aspirations: "I just want to play swinging jazz on some nice tunes and express myself." Considered on this basis alone, this performance — one of a short season of Pizza Express gigs concluding on Monday — was a resounding success.

Backed by long-time British associates, pianist Brian Lemon and bassist Dave Green, and with drummer Martin Drew deputising for Allan Ganley, Hamilton set a standard of relaxed but insistent swing, and demonstrated his unrivalled ability to infuse the familiar with a vigour all the more effective for the elegance and mature sophistication of the style in which it is delivered.

He may not be at the cutting edge of jazz, but Hamilton's music is no less incisive for that.

CHRIS PARKER

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Carlo Maria Giulini on the podium: "We have to deal with genius and we are small men. We must understand what is behind the notes"

If ever a musical cliché needed demolishing it is the phrase that links the words "Italian" and "temperamental". For every great Italian musician with a reputation for being fiery and volatile — and most music-lovers will think immediately of Toscanini — there must be a dozen who are courteous, sanguine and unflappable. Claudio Abbado is polite to the point of self-effacement; Maurizio Pollini is practically monosyllabic with all except close friends. Some Italian singers can be difficult, but no more so than prima donnas the world over.

But the musician who is most clearly a walking refutation of the Italian stereotype is the conductor Carlo Maria Giulini, whose six decades of superlative music-making we celebrate in CD Direct. 40 years after his British debut, Giulini's magisterial reputation is not built on fear or stridency but on reverence: his own reverence for the music of the masters, and the reverence of instrumentalists and singers in the face of Giulini's manifest visionary and spiritual qualities.

"We have to deal with genius and we are small men," he once said. "We must understand what is behind the notes." Nobody ever came out of a Giulini performance, or even one of his rehearsals, feeling that they had experienced something flashy or superficial. On the contrary: every Giulini concert has a religious dimension that is positively startling if you are not prepared for it.

Sometimes Giulini, who hates anything routine, will suspend his conducting schedule for weeks, even months, in order to meditate, read and study. When he returns to the podium it seems as if the meditation is still in progress. Sometimes that can misfire. I remember being very irked a few years ago by a Giulini performance of Bach's Mass in B Minor that seemed to go on for hours longer than normal, and in fact did. But more often than not audiences emerge from his meticulously rehearsed concerts in a state of epiphany: not until then had they realised that music contained such profound emotions. It is this trait that places Giulini in the same league as Furtwängler and Klemperer.

Giulini prepared for his vocation by sitting, literally, at the feet of giants. Trained as a violinist, he played through much of the 1930s with the Santa Cecilia Orchestra in Rome under some of the greatest conductors of the day — notably Strauss, Furtwängler and Walter. As with many other young musicians, the war inexorably altered the course of his life. Strongly anti-Fascist in his beliefs, he went into hiding, emerging in 1944 to conduct the first concert in liberated Rome.

Thereafter, his rise was swift. Put in charge of the Rome and Milan radio orchestras, he could develop his operatic interpretations in ideal conditions — away from the squabbles and compromises of an actual opera house. He became a close friend of Toscanini, though you might never guess it from his interpretations, and succeeded Victor de Sabata as principal conductor of La Scala in 1954.

The British discovered him the following year when he came to the Edinburgh Festival and conducted a performance of Verdi's *Falstaff* so brimming with humanity that it remained scorched in the memory of all who heard it. From then on, musical Britain became besotted with Giulini, and he rewarded us with two of his greatest achievements: the Visconti *Don Carlos* at Covent Garden in 1958, and the unsurpassable Verdi Requiem which he performed and then recorded with Walter Legge's Philharmonia Orchestra and Chorus in 1962.

Since 1969 he has conducted no opera in the opera house, a renunciation entirely in keeping with his character. Socialising, administration or playing politics hold no allures for him: he exists purely to conduct, and to conduct purely. Elegant, suave and graceful as a man, he brings those same refined qualities to his music-making. But they are harnessed to a brilliant control of orchestral timbres and an ability, where necessary, to conjure the most colossal power from his performers.

You can hear that most noticeably on the remarkable *Rigoletto* recording that we have chosen. Giulini brings more nobility and tragic stature to this opera — and particularly to its cursed hunchback anti-hero — than any conductor I have ever heard. He treats it, in other words, as great drama, not as a lurid set of tableaux.

In recent years, Giulini's interpretations have carried a tangible sense of sorrow, of terrible loss. There are personal reasons for this, as you might expect in an eighty-year-old man. That permeates the recording of the Fauré Requiem that we have chosen. Other performances may be more "authentic" — but Giulini's astonishingly slow and highly-charged version is utterly unforgettable. It treats the fact of death not as some sort of literary conceit or theatrical denouement, but as a numbing and ruinous reality.

Yet this same Giulini can conjure up, in Bruckner's Eighth Symphony, as affirmative and joyous a set of orchestral sounds as was ever put onto disc. That is the stature of the man: that you talk of his performances not in terms of nuances and nudges, but as matters of life and death.

THE TIMES



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Compared with the apocalyptic Requiems of Verdi and Berlioz, Fauré's Requiem is a beautifully understated, tender and delicate work, but no less moving. Fauré was, like Bruckner, another late achiever: he was over 50 when he finally became professor of composition at the Paris Conservatoire, and his Requiem was written nine years later. Its most famous movement is perhaps the soprano solo. *Pie Jesu*, radiantly sung here by Kathleen Battle.

Rossini. Stabat Mater. *Katia Ricciarelli, Lucia Valentini Terrani, Dalmacio Gonzales, Ruggero Raimondi, Philharmonia Orch and Chorus/ Giulini.*
T03953
Today, Rossini is best known for sparkling and witty operas such as *The Barber of Seville* or *Count Ory*. It is impossible to imagine the creator of such scintillating tunes suddenly switching off his melodic exuberance when he came to write sacred music — even sacred music with a text as solemn as that of the *Stabat Mater*. And Rossini does indeed provide full measure of rumbustious solos, rip-roaring tunes and oom-pah accompaniments even here. But the work is also charged with emotion.

Verdi. Rigoletto. *Piero Cappuccilli, Ileana Cotrubus, Placido Domingo, Vienna Philharmonic/ Giulini.*
T03954
When Jonathan Miller turned *Rigoletto* into a "Mafia" story for English National Opera, he was only making explicit what everybody instinctively knew: that Verdi's story of the cursed hunchback, the licentious duke and the beautiful innocent is as steamy and violent a plot as anything dreamt up by Francis Ford Coppola or Martin Scorsese. But it also needs terrific singers that can do justice to such celebrated arias as *La donna e mobile*. On this recording the combination of Cappuccilli, Cotrubus and Domingo — backed up by such distinguished voices as Elena Obratsova, Nicolai Ghiaurov, Kurt Moll and Hanna Schwarz — is unbeatable.

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POP

Great love-in

Barry White
Wembley Arena

"LOVE," as Barry White never tires of saying, "is a beautiful thing, baby." He loves his band. He loves the whole of London, England he tells us. "You were my first friend across the great sea."

White has built a 25-year career on love songs and his colossal figure bestrides the sultry end of the soul spectrum. And if music be the food of love, then White has partaken sumptuously at Aphrodite's table, nicked her favourite recipes and turned them into songs such as *You're My First, My Last, My Everything, Can't Get Enough Of Your Love, Babe* and, most recently, an album entitled *The Icon Is Love*.

Turning the cavernous Arena into a boudoir is not the easiest of tasks. The presence of the 18-strong Love Unlimited Orchestra and the ten-strong band, not to mention 12,000 starry-eyed women, here to welcome the walrus of soul back to Britain, might make lesser men feel somewhat public. Not so White, whose stately progress across the stage provoked tidal-waves of screams and flowers from his audience.

On record, White's two most recent singles, *Practice What You Preach* and *I Only Want To Be With You*, have benefited from a production style that favours snappy syncopation. In concert, however, White relies on what works best: streaming strings, a well-earthed rhythm section and plenty of room for monologues on his favourite subject.

New material assumes the same, resolutely 1970s form of White's most fertile period. This is no bad thing, considering that the singer has become synonymous with dim-light mood music. The bass, liquid-chocolate voice alternated between rumbles and mumbles. White patted his forehead with a silk hankie after the more impassioned passages.

Only at the end, as White was coaxed into a black cloak, did the image of the great lover converge with the stage-craft of James Brown. But the moment was brief, perhaps because the internal combustion engine of the latter's *Ser Machine* had no place in White's aural foreplay.

LOUISE GRAY

RADIO: Nick Ross's phone-in programme maintains Radio 4's unrivalled status

Talk of the nation

I HAVE always resisted having anything good to say about Nick Ross, or "Auntie's favourite nephew" as I believe he is known, on the grounds that so many people have written so many nice things about him that I would be better advised to stay silent.

There is also the fact that Ross co-presents *Crimewatch UK*, the hideous programme that has single-handedly convinced the British people that it is no longer safe to venture out after dark or open their front doors to anyone except a blood relative wearing a Salvation Army hat.

Unfortunately, *Crimewatch UK* is a television programme and this is a radio column, which means the breaking of my Rossian silence must confine itself to **Call Nick Ross** (Tuesdays, Radio 4).

This week's edition had a particular relevance because at the weekend I listened to *Feedback*, when the presenter, Chris Dunkley, interviewed Michael Green, the controller of Radio 4. Green is an immensely likeable fellow who is genuinely pained to discover that some listeners think he is up to no good.

Green denies taking Radio 4 downmarket in an attempt to popularise it, though he accepts that there has been some "broadening" of the schedules in the past year or two.

Whether or not this has happened, it has not made a jot of difference to the size of the Radio 4 audience and I *doubt that the audience profile* has altered either, remaining resolutely middle-class and middle-aged (most of the audience is over 50).

I can vouch that the older you get the more attractive Radio 4 becomes and I am worryingly prone to fret when one of the Belgravia Cockneys nurtured by the dear departed Janet Street-Porter turns up on the network. Get him off, I splutter into the Earl Grey.

Although most of the mail to Feedback is postmarked Middle England, this does not invalidate it. Nor is the fact that callers to Nick Ross of a Tuesday tend to sound middle-class and articulate a reason to deride the network as "toffee-nosed", to use the term applied to Radio 4 by a publicist for Talk Radio UK.

Indeed, Tuesday's phone-in, about the little girl denied leukaemia treatment by the NHS, was the very model of a civilised debate among saddened, civilised people.

At last, here was a programme that, using only its own listeners (and the chief executive of the NHS), managed to generate more light than heat on this most emotional subject. By the end, it was very clear that ordinary thinking people understand the dilemmas facing the NHS.

It was also clear that these very people are the ones who make Radio 4 what it is. They probably write to *Feedback*, too. On the air and off it, they are really saying that Radio 4 is an elite network, with a brand image advertisers would kill for and a status unrivalled in radio broadcasting anywhere on the planet. And they are right.

PETER BARNARD

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New Machiavelli gets his come-uppance

Sarah Baxter

LETTERS TO A YOUNG POLITICIAN
From His Uncle
By Alastair McAlpine
Faber, £14.99

Far from coveting elected office, Lord McAlpine regards most politicians with contempt. He is interested in influence rather than the paraphanalia of power. His most gratifying years were spent as Conservative Party treasurer, when he was privy to the secrets of the Thatcher era and accountable only to her. He extolled his own role and gave it a patina of honour in a previous work, *The Servant*, an intriguing modern version of Machiavelli's *The Prince* (now in Faber paperback at £6.99). Ruthless behaviour, he argued, could be justified in the service of a prince who was motivated by an idea. The book was dedicated to the "most magnificent Baroness Thatcher", who had rewarded her servant with a peerage of his own.

Letters to a Young Politician is its sequel. In the meantime, McAlpine has allowed his resentment against Thatcher's heirs and assassins to fester. It is a cynical, bitter work, reflecting his rage at her downfall. A servant without a prince is nothing more than a frustrated apparatchik or party functionary, the character which McAlpine has given to the uncle who writes letters to his nephew.

The epistolary style is contrived, but it is the moral, not the story, that interests McAlpine. The book is intended to be a training manual for princes. The uncle hopes that, with the benefit of his advice, his nephew will turn out to be a "man of principle, a prince among men". Instead, he becomes a vain, shallow, self-serving and highly successful politician. He follows his uncle's advice when it suits him, while resisting anything approaching an idea or guiding principle.

McAlpine's sympathies lie with the uncle, who is his mouthpiece. Fortunately, he has enough of a sense of irony to realise that his creature's ravings are more likely to repel than attract. The uncle displays little affection for his nephew, only the desire to control. Nevertheless, I suspect McAlpine's vanity is such that he hopes truly superior beings will recognise the uncle's worth.

Not me, though, because, after only a few letters, I wanted the young politician to tell his relative to get stuffed. I was tired of his cruel gibes against other members of his family, his odious flattery of his nephew and his carping criticism of the Prime Minister, a none-too-disguised John Major.

The first half of the book is one long poison pen letter to Major.



Lord McAlpine: pessimistic

McAlpine's hatred of him is intense. The PM is worthy of study, the uncle tells his nephew, only as "a model of all that you should shun". His speeches are as exciting as a telephone directory; he is petty, jealous, obnoxiously "nice"; he signed a "lousy squalid treaty"; and the only talent he has is hanging on to office. "Throw him out on his ear, I say," the uncle concludes.

Minor characters, such as Heseltine, "a man whose hair blows in the slipstream of his oratory", make an appearance, just so that McAlpine can settle old scores. Jeffrey Archer, the writer of "poor novels" who was also trashed in *The Servant*, is not spared. Cecil Parkinson's example is used to warn the nephew against the rather obvious dangers of having a pregnant mistress. Some but not all of the advice has an authentic, insider's feel to it. Does the nephew need to be told of the perils of standing in the middle of the road?

In a chronicle of disaster foretold, the Government is brought down. In the background, topically enough, are "Irish troublemakers" and "half-witted industrialists", who have awarded themselves huge pay increases. McAlpine gives Major no dignity in defeat. The Prime Minister has to be dragged kicking and screaming from office.

At this point, the letters become rather more sinister and revealing. The uncle turns out to be less interested in serving a noble prince than any old strong leader. I had often thought that might be the case with Thatcher-worshippers. The uncle wants a strangely Fascist-sounding cleansing of the party. He exults in opposition as the chance to purge. The new leader bears a distant resemblance to Sir James Goldsmith (the eco-friendly policies are the giveaway). He declares that he wants a new Cabinet, untainted by recent failures, and gives the job of party chairman to a ghost from the past. Enoch Powell, perhaps? "Even I," writes the uncle, "was not around in his day." The new leader's big idea is the leadership principle itself. "Undertakings, like fish, go bad at the head."

You can see why the real John Major once said of McAlpine, "Try as I might, I cannot honestly believe that he is really a Conservative." To the uncle's disgust, however, the party, being Conservative, revolts against its strongman and slings him out. Thus is the history of Thatcher repeated.

If McAlpine is the uncle, right down to his Garrick Club tie, there is also an extremely creepy and voyeuristic subplot. The uncle stalks and abuses his adopted niece, imagining he is in love. It is McAlpine's conviction that great men can be brought down by their sexual peccadilloes, as well as by their colleagues' poverty of imagination. *Letters to a Young Politician* is a pessimistic work, because slippery, opportunist politicians triumph over the prince. Well, phew. I have never felt more glad about that in my life.

Colin Welch enjoys a defence of Middle America against its elites but doubts whether social engineering is the answer

Last testament of an American seer

THE REVOLT OF THE ELITES
and the Betrayal of Democracy
By Christopher Lasch
Norton, £16.95

Christopher Lasch is a superbly old-fashioned American of the best sort — or was. Alas, he is dead. This is his last book, posthumously published. It was written, he tells us, "under difficult circumstances". Dead too, till recently, or dying or mortally threatened, seemed the old-fashioned Middle America which he venerates and which has in our lifetime brought hope and help, moral and material, to a tortured and ungrateful world. Lasch is terribly worried about what has gone wrong but remains of good courage and temper.

He is a sort of scholarly Newt Gingrich, as Gingrich himself may be, viewed without trendy East Coast prejudices. Gingrich is after all, as Lasch himself was, a professor of history, a discipline for which indeed, as practised now in America, Lasch has no automatic veneration. Much history taught in American schools he denounces as "infantilised sociology". The history he himself teaches is social, to be sure, but of a better sort, more like De Tocqueville's. Have Gingrich's recent triumphs cheered Lasch up in Heaven? Perhaps so, but with reservations Lasch would not care to be part of any "whitelash". His lash is strictly in aid of traditional American values, which encompass and bless Americans of *all* colours.

My use of the word "alas" above was heartfelt. I have rarely been in the literary company of a *savant* so congenial, so ready for a chat, a civilised conversation or polite argument. Lasch disarmingly suggests that taverns, coffee houses, beer gardens and pubs are "the essence of civic life" — where else can be learnt the political arts? Lasch quotes of all people in his support the great Emerson. No Hoorah Henry he, I would have thought — "Hi Ralph, what's yours?" But even the educative old American tavern is now in danger, it seems, increasingly supplanted by "outlets" which discourage loitering and in which we eat on the run.

Meanwhile, Lasch's own table talk, as exemplified in his splendid book, is learned, sympathetic, percipient, well argued. It deploys with eloquence and wit what Middle America feels and thinks but cannot always without intermediary express. He inveighs against American universities. Could they have been all bad while he taught at one?

The book begins, be warned, with a long, laborious and difficult attack on these new American cities. It is thus forced at times to use the impenetrable jargon of the enemy, just as our brave boys had to use gas when the other side sank to it. Lasch symbolises these elites by noting President Bush's utter bewilderment when first faced with an electronic scanning device in a supermarket checkout. Bush thus revealed himself, as if in a flash of lightning, hopelessly non-elite, as we too may be.

The new elites are mobile, cosmpolitan, ambitious, ready for any opportunity anywhere. They are contemptuous of Middle America, of home, family and neighbours. They despise Middle America as technologically backward, politically reactionary, repressive in sexual morality, smug, conventional, complacent and dowdy. The elites are unpatriotic, hardly American at all, multicultural, truly at home only in transit, *en route* to some high-level conference or to open new franchises.

They form an aristocracy of brains, with all the vices of previous aristocracies and few of the virtues. It is convinced that it has brains itself, that ordinary people have none, and that brains alone, scientific expertise and technological knowhow can "solve" all problems. It regards politics as a science, not an art. It is without past and future, agelessly youthful, thus preserved, it hopes, by "hygienic imperialism" (hatred of smokers and smoking, etc.) and mastery of the latest trends. It accordingly disrespects seniority and experience.

If we loathe such whiz-kids, we naturally suspect envy at work in us. Beware, cries Lasch — they are dangerous. Mistrust your arrogant "best and brightest". In Vietnam, for instance, they dragged you into a protracted and demoralising war, not yet recovered from.

British fogeys will find Lasch on the whole a man after their own heart. But they are in for one or two salutary surprises. He is, after all, an American fogey, and a populist democratic fogey at that. His democratic hallelujahs are explicable and persuasive when it is emphasised that he values democracy, not as the most efficient, but as the most *educative* form of government. He also takes comfort from his conviction (or illusion) that the American masses are deeply conservative, fogey-friendly, far more so than their self-appointed spokesmen and would-be liberators. It is the working and lower middle classes, Lasch asserts, which favour limits on abortion, cling to the two-parent family, resist experiments with "alternative lifestyles", mistrust affirmative action and other social engineering. They understand well the inherent limits of human control over social development, over the tragic elements and history.

But do they? You can hardly open a newspaper here or in America without being reminded of the extent to which the lower orders have been bohemianised. They now naturally and without misgivings adopt lifestyles and ideas which would have shocked their grandparents, or even the easy-going residents of Murger's Latin Quarter (on which Puccini based *La Bohème*). Is not Lasch's anchor dragging in a stormy ocean in which marriage is exotic, the normal abnormal, the "alternative" the usual?

Fogeys here too may be surprised and dismayed by Lasch's egalitarianism, which is quite beyond the old-fashioned American norm. No sane person deplores an equality which is natural and unforced. Most of us admire and value, as did observers like Sombart and Tawney, the traditional self-respect of the American worker, his freedom from servile deference and from rancorous class feeling.

Fogey eyebrows here will rise only where Lasch morally condemns all great wealth and calls loudly for action to stamp it underfoot. Granted, he is talking only of wealth beyond the obvious "needs" of the owner. Needs? By whom assessed? By what criteria? What "needs" has a great benefactor, for instance? How, without the benefactor's wealth, are those needs to be met?

On poor old New York, Lasch unleashes a veritable jihad . He calls for liberation from "parasitic" interests and industries (how defined?), for "egalitarian" economic reforms, for a "frontal assault" on corporate power, for real and not rhetorical change, "always an unwelcome prospect for those (including many self-styled radicals and cultural revolutionaries) with a heavy investment in the existing arrangements".

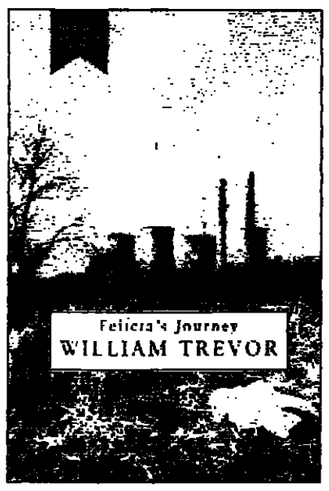
Yes, but unwelcome perhaps also to countless New Yorkers who lack jobs. This lack Lasch proposes to remedy by means which he has already (wisely) denounced as "social engineering". His jobless readers, aware that nothing destroys jobs like attempts to create or preserve them, may shiver in their shoes. They may also justly mistrust military language applied to social and economic problems.

It is perhaps unfair to pick out a few progressive *bêtises* from a book so rich in traditional wisdom (especially about education and religion, for which last Lasch has a profound, if rationalistic, respect). It would have been such a pleasure to chew them over with Lasch in some leisurely pub. But, alas, he is *afay* (as Hans Breitmann might have put it in one of his Pennsylvanian Dutch ballads), the pub perhaps *afay* too. *Afay in de Ewigkeit* . . .



US soldier with human armbone, Vietnam, 1968. Taken from *Tim Page's Nam* (Thames & Hudson, £14.95 pbk)

THE TIMES
Win the Book of the Year



WIDELY regarded as one of the greatest living writers in English, William Trevor has just won the 1994 Whitbread Book Of The Year Award for his novel *Felicia's Journey*.

Published by Viking at £15, it is the story of a young Irish woman who runs away to England to find the father of the baby she is expecting. Short of money and with nowhere to stay, she encounters the evil Mr Hilditch.

Reviewing the novel in *The Times*, Rachel Cusk wrote: "Mr Hilditch is a masterfully created character ... *Felicia's Journey* is a sad and disturbing commentary on a society increasingly polarised by disposability and automatism."

The Times has 25 copies, signed by the author, to be won in a competition. To enter, send your answers to the questions below to: Whitbread Novel Contest, 33 Bouverie Street, London, EC88 5NG.

Winners will be drawn at random from all correct entries received by the closing date of March 27, 1995. Normal Times Newspapers competition rules apply.

The questions:
1) In which country was William Trevor born?
2) Which honour did he receive from the Queen for services to literature?

Scuppered by landlubbers

FISHER'S FACE
By Jan Morris
Viking, £16

ADMIRAL of the Fleet Lord Fisher was a man of fierce passions and implacable resentments. His volcanic personality made the Royal Navy of the Edwardian era an unquiet place. His manifesto: "If any man oppose me, I will make his wife a widow, his children fatherless and his home a dunghill", is notorious. The ministerial career of Churchill himself came close to evaporating in the furnace of that terrible wrath.

Yet Fisher was a naval thinker of genius. The steam turbine engine, the all-big-gun ship and the watertube boiler were all in great measure his brainchildren. He envisaged the gas turbine more than half a century before it became standard warship propulsion: in 1912 he asked Sir Charles Parsons if he could not "somehow associate the turbine with the principle of internal combustion . . ." Above all he saw — as generations of naval officers after him did not — that the engines of a warship were as much a part of its fighting capacity as its guns.

In a book whose title and introduction promise a somewhat fanciful evocation, Jan Morris has actually done her homework well. Whatever else it is not, *Fisher's Face* is a faithful survey of the Navy's transformation from the hybrid sail-and-steam ship of the 1850s to the all-steel dreadnought of 1914. She is meticulous in such details as gun calibres and tonnages, although she ought perhaps to have known that "splicing the mainbrace" was not the daily rum ration for the lower deck (the pipe for that was "Up spirits") but an issue of grog to the entire ship's company to celebrate some special — often royal — event.

This is in general, then, a knowledgeable performance. Yet the feeling lingers that Morris has missed an opportunity to produce something more, something out of the ordinary. The character of Fisher lends itself to a wholehearted, imaginative re-creation of a historical period in the manner of Carlyle.



Fisher: implacable hater

Peter Davies

Yet for an avowed *jeu d'amour*, the book is surprisingly passionless. In spite of Morris's predilection for her subject, the fantasy never quite takes off. She imagines a love affair with Fisher in the after-life, but that which she conducts with him in the pages of *Fisher's Face* is at best fitful and tepid. What we are left with is a dutiful account of Fisher's career, overlaid at points with a veneer of whimsy.

Fisher was a colossal figure. From Morris's pages he emerges as something less. Like many others who have been mesmerised by his persona, she seems not to have been quite able to penetrate to what lay at the heart of the man and caused his eventual, spectacular self-immolation. At the end of *Fisher's Face*, its protagonist lives on, as he does in so many accounts of his life, not so much through his biographer as in his own capacity to give vent to his inner self, in salvoes of pungent and memorable speech.

The soul of the soufflé

Charles Bremner

LIEBLING AT THE NEW YORKER
Uncollected Essays
Edited by James Barbour and Fred Warner
University of New Mexico Press, £22.99

EVEN IF you have never dipped into A.J. Liebling's work for *The New Yorker*, you probably know something of his voice. This is because so many writers since Joe Liebling's heyday in the 1940s and 1950s have tried to echo the style of this master of discursive reportage. Too many American magazine writers, especially those of the pre-Tina Brown *New Yorker*, have thought that all that was required was to find a quirky angle and whip up a soufflé of quotes and exhaustive detail, laced with literary idiom and New York underworld slang.

A few, such as Tom Wolfe, managed to pick up the mantle after Liebling's death in his 60th year in 1963, producing the novelistic style they called the New Journalism. But the result rarely comes close to, say, Liebling's 12-page ode to fish soup, which starts: "Ever since 1918, when I ate my first bouillabaisse — an event that in my mind overshadowed the end of the First World War. . ."

The Soul of Bouillabaisse appears in *Liebling at The New Yorker*, 33 previously uncollected pieces by the prolific reporter who is remembered as one of the most graceful chroniclers of human foibles and grandeur.

The son of a furrier, he was expelled from Dartmouth College and sacked by *The New York Times* for taking liberties with the facts. He did not think of himself as a pioneer, but rather as an heir to Defoe, Hazlitt and Cobbett. In these pieces he paints the mood of France in the throes of defeat from the fitting room of Burberry's in Paris. The absurd side of war in the Western Desert appears in the person of a pompous Grenadier Guards captain, who wallops Arab girls with his swagger stick for taking water from the officers' well. Postwar Britain emerges vividly from a Billy Graham rally in a Glasgow hall: "The reclaimed souls, after huddling a while in prayer around the pastor, were herded off to a detention pen, where, I was given to understand, their names and addresses would be placed on cards that would be mailed out to resident ministers for follow-up treatment."

Much of Liebling, such as his religious devotion to food and drink and tendency to what would now be called "stereotyping", would be deemed fearfully unacceptable these days. Who would dare write now, as he does in *The Case of the Scattered Dutchman*, the tale of a Manhattan murder: "Feeling slighted is a characteristic of especially high incidence among Germans and unattractive women and Mrs Nack was both." Modern war reporters would consider it wrong to note the comical behaviour of occupying soldiers in cafés, as Liebling does from newly-liberated Paris, before passing straight on to the marks left on prison walls by the fingernails of their torture victims.

But such throwaway lightness is a mark of a wordsmith whose skill can only evoke envy among humbler practitioners of the reporter's trade.

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High priest of hero-worship

Peter Ackroyd on the volcanic Victorian sage who almost destroyed himself and his wife

The reputation of Thomas Carlyle has always suffered from false claims and inflated expectations. That is why, in this new and timely biography, Simon Heffer begins by charting the precipitate decline in his fame. It has been said that there was too much sound and fury in him, and indeed it seems that his career was very much like a storm: there was thunder, and sheet lightning, but it quickly passed from memory. If he is mentioned in these days, it is likely to be as the prototype of "the fascist" or, as Ruskin put it, a "moral desperado".

But here is the first mistake. Carlyle's opinions are not really very important. He was primarily a wonderful stylist and, therefore, a great if generally unacknowledged humorist. He himself may have believed his somewhat strident creed to be significant, but in fact the most important aspect of his work is its sheer inventiveness and verbal exuberance. He was a man of letters, but the letters were of fire; there is no one else like him in English literature.

Or perhaps it is better to say Scottish literature. He was born in Ecclefechan, close to the border; imaginatively, he lived in border country all his life. He came from Calvinist peasant stock and seemed destined to become a minister of that rigorous faith; in one sense he did attain that destiny, since his public manner was that of someone standing erect in a pulpit. But he went his own way, too. Like most of the great early Victorians (he was actually born in 1795, but belonged in spirit to the succeeding century), he was largely self-taught and self-inspired. He also possessed a characteristic fund of energy and strident will which forced him forward into the world.

It was fortunate that, in this period of awakening, Carlyle found Goethe and the transcendental mysticism, represented by his formula of the "Everlasting Yea". All the elements of his nature, hitherto scattered and disordered, were quickened and unified in a visionary moment when he understood the nature of the world. It was of course an early 19th-century vision, concerned with the nature of energy and power (at a slightly later date, Faraday was to see these same forces in a different context) but it was enough for Carlyle. He was not someone who willingly changed his mind any more than he entertained opposition, and it can fairly be said that his first vision remained with him for the rest of his life.

At the time he encountered German mysticism he also met Jane, the wife who has since taken her place in cultural history as the quintessential literary victim. Their marriage began in gladness, but ended almost in madness as their combined resources of hypochondria, insomnia and depression overwhelmed them.

MORAL DESPERADO
A Life of Thomas Carlyle
By Simon Heffer
Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £20

The truth is, according to Heffer, that Carlyle was, if not exactly impotent, then sexually inactive. It has even been suggested that he was homosexual, although his Calvinism no doubt prevented him from ever recognising the fact. He called Jane the "Necessary Evil" and from the beginning of the marriage, in Heffer's words, consigned her "to periods of numbing solitude and neglect". "My Husband always *writing*," she said later in *one of those letters which* secured her own literary reputation, "I always *ailing*."

Their famous house in Chelsea did indeed become a monument to the penalties, as well as the joys, of literature. *The French Revolution* was Carlyle's first popular success. *Sartor Resartus* having been consigned to the relative indignity of periodical publication. It was, as Heffer suggests, more of a prose poem than a history. In fact, it remains one of the most curious historical narratives ever published in English. Carlyle had a wonderful creative imagination, but he was one of those writers who could never be satisfied with composing fiction; he considered novels to be no more than very light entertainment, and so he created a new kind of imaginative history in which polemic and irony, mystical insight and comic bravado, are effortlessly conflated.

He was not appreciated by his more liberal contemporaries. A mystic who believes in the immanence of the eternal spirit is not likely to be exercised by Reform, and a savage ironist is most unlikely to be a democrat. (It might be said that all great wits are, of necessity, Tory.) Carlyle worshipped "greatness", despised English parliamentary democracy, detested those who wished to reform prisons or to free slaves, and generally execrated anyone who belonged to "the Universal Abolition of Pain Association".

On one level his adulation of the hero, the "Able-man", was a projection of his own personality into a larger sphere, but he genuinely espoused a philosophy which his disciple, Ruskin, summed up rather neatly — "a most sincere love of kings, and dislike of everybody who attempted to disobey them".

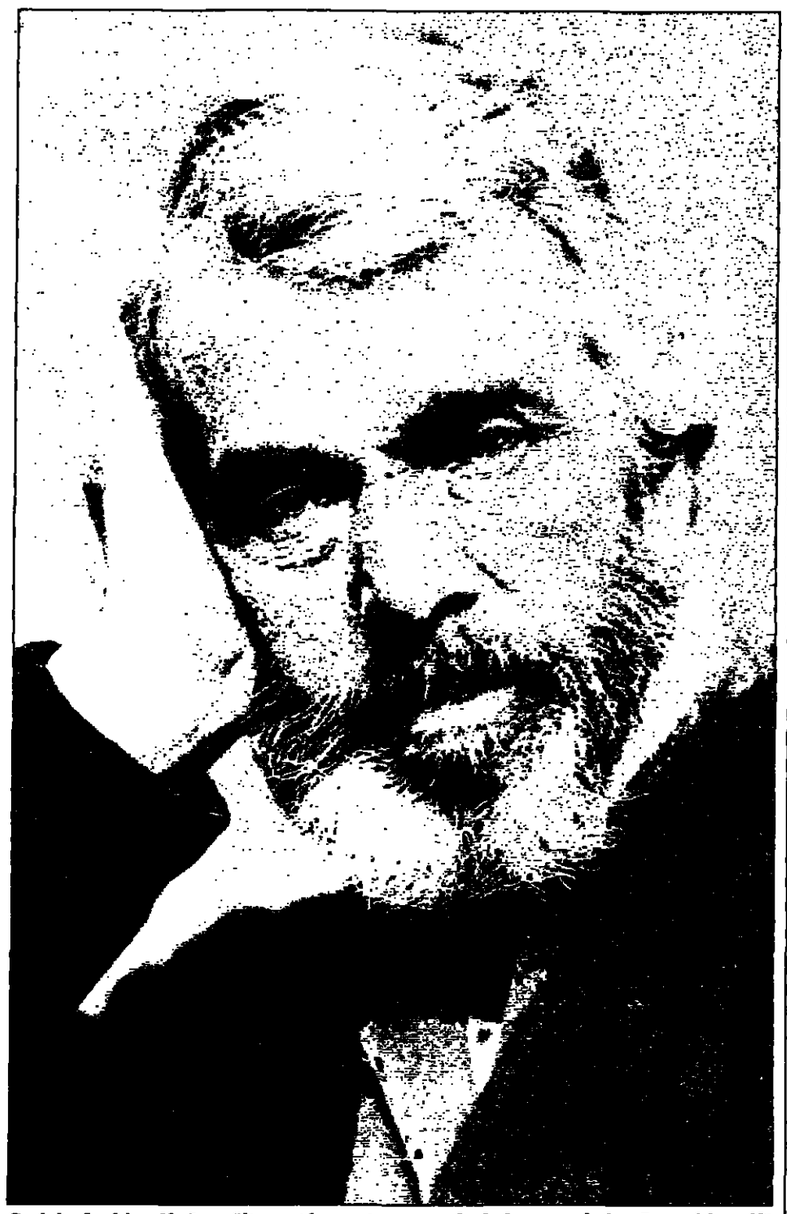
This may not quite explain Carlyle's loving threnody, *Oliver Cromwell*, although it is easy to see why he admired the dictator whom he claimed to be "the last glimpse of the Godlike" — "Courage, my brave one!" he wrote, "Thou hast but some Seven Months *more of it . . .*" *It is unusual for* a biographer to address his subject so enthusiastically, but it does at least suggest an intimacy of purpose. He did not follow the same advice, however, and he proceeded almost to destroy both himself and Jane in the course of his travails over the six volumes of *Frederick the Great*.

Life at Chelsea became hell absolute. For some 12 years he laboured in his soundproof room at the top of the house, largely ignoring his wife. She had a very clear idea of her husband by this stage, however, who was "as usual, never healthy, never absolutely ill — *protesting against 'things in* general' . . .". A friend said that "it must be something next worse to being married to Satan himself", and in fact Jane began to keep a journal chronicling her wretchedness and isolation.

One cannot help feeling, however, that she might have tried a little harder to be happy. Yet it must also be said of her husband that few writers have ever made such a fuss over the process of composition. For him it seemed to require complete nervous collapse and physical breakdown; no book could be finished without virtually destroying him first.

It all ended in misery. Here, perhaps, Heffer might have abandoned his admirable and rigorously objective style in the marshalling of events, simply in order to add a little drama: Jane Carlyle dying bolt upright in her carriage, the husband discovering in her journals the evidence of his own wretched behaviour, the subsequent years of guilt and shame. "Were not the fountain of tears quite dried in me," he told one contemporary, "I could feel it a consolation to sit and weep."

In fact he remained quite lively, travelling on the omnibus and receiving variously distinguished visitors as his fame reached fever-pitch. Heffer is very good on these final days, and in fact this is a thorough and convincing account of the "sage". *Moral Desperado* may on occasions be prosaic, and even a little repetitive, but then what biographer, facing Carlyle's own sound and fury, would dare to compete?



Carlyle: for his wife Jane "it must be next worse to be being married to Satan himself"

Tale of a Tube and a Nazi in Birmingham

Alison Burns

CRAZY PAVING
By Louise Doughty
Touchstone, £9.99

GOING NAKED IS THE BEST DISGUISE
By Steven Jacobi
Secker & Warburg, £9.99

In these everlasting days of traffic gridlock and appalling weather, here's a piece for long-suffering commuters, especially those in London. *Crazy Paving* should, however, be approached with caution by anyone in senior management. Setting her first novel as much on the city's knackered public transport system as in the dodgy offices of the Capital Transport Authority, Louise Doughty has composed a revenge comedy specifically in honour of the oppressed secretaries of life (toilers among the pot-plants and filing cabinets, arise!).

Romance is in the air for neat, unhappy, middle-aged Annette. Older Joan has her hands full with bolshy Helen *aka* Helly, the office junior *from Hell. But there is nasty* work afoot, as seriously bent surveyor Richard, their boss, dooms part of London to further planning blight. At the warm heart of this story of office intrigue and corruption lies Rosewood Cottage — home, as it happens, to Helly's life-preservingly eccentric grandparents. As the plot thickens, Annette, Joan and Helly join in unlikely comradeship to expose Richard before he demolishes the cottage and sacks the lot of them.

Doughty's slow-cooking deadpan humour takes a little getting used to, but once you catch her stride you have to admit that life is very like this, exaggerations included. Helly's anarchic behaviour is a response to circumstances; she knows exactly whose side she's on. For Annette it is unlikely that there will be any release from death by genteel suffering and train cancellations unless Chance gives a hand. This Doughty gladly lays on, in a spectacular wish-fulfilling denouement at Victoria Station. Her comic debut is strong on the odd detail of insignificant lives.

Humour is tinged with rather more gravity in Steven Jacobi's first novel. *Going Naked Is The Best Disguise* captures the flavour of mid-century childhood in a provincial English household dominated by the experience of Nazism. Narrated by a young boy growing up in Birmingham to the sound of Harold Wilson and the Rolling Stones, its emphasis is on the boy's confusing mother — a German beauty from the Nazi *Deutsche Mädel*, who married his English father when letters stopped arriving from her sweetheart in Germany.

This determined, unconventional woman, who Hoovers naked, keeps the clocks fast and has a mania for polishing, is a complex character. She covers her homesickness, guilt and disappointment with a frantically brisk attitude to daily life in postwar Britain. Her husband, a jeweller and football fan, is gadget-mad. She goes for her annual two-month holiday to the German village of her childhood, where time seems to stand still.

When her son (an ordinary schoolboy charged at one point with comparing *Macbeth* with *Tarka the Otter*, since these are the only textbooks available) reads a cache of her love-letters, he finds surprising references to philosophy and physics. The boy is struggling to make his own sense of life, death, time, space and, not least, Aunt Betty (who keeps God at the bottom of her garden), when the mother is taken into hospital with a brain tumour. Father enjoys a break from too much domestic control, son practises a little *prestidigitatory shoplifting*; but both are quite relieved when she recovers.

This is a poignant and unsettling book, which picks its way through a family's memories in search of answers to the unanswerable.

Nursery classics enjoy second childhoods

Brian Alderson

LITTLE WOMEN
Little Men, Jo's Boys
By Louisa May Alcott
Little, Brown, £4.99 pbk each

EMIL AND THE DETECTIVES
The Flying Classroom, Lottie and Lisa
By Erich Kästner
Red Fox, £3.50 pbk each

Anyone compiling a Western Canon of children's literature (and some American academics, of course, have done so) should reserve places for *Little Women* and *Emil and the Detectives* (the Americans naturally put in the first, but had possibly never heard of the second). Both books warrant inclusion by virtue of a salutary freshness which they have brought to the dowdy purlieus of fictional realism.

"Truth, humor, and pathos" says Jo's mum about the attractions of the story with which her daughter has won acclaim — and Louisa May Alcott was surely setting out thus the reasons why her own *Little Women* was such a success. In a literary field dominated by too much wooden respectability and too much lacrimosity, the first part of her book, published by Roberts Brothers of Boston in 1868, had an instant appeal, apparently being read by everyone from "grave lawyers" to the boy in the elevator.

She had not really expected that. She had been urged to its composition by Roberts's editor and laboured at it rather despairingly as task-work. But it was a book rooted in personal experience — the "truth, humor and pathos" of a real family — and it was this which was to carry it round the world. Part Two — known in Britain as *Good Wives* — was written fast to catch the flood-tide of popularity, and, like the good pro that she was, Alcott worked the seam further, but with *diminishing* freshness in *Little Men* (1871) and *Jo's Boys* (1886).

The books have never been out of print since, and their reappearance now "from the original publisher" is testimony to an optimistic belief that they can still speak to a modern audience. (The publisher is "original" simply because Little, Brown bought up Roberts in 1898: and the new printing of *Little Women* follows a revised version which Alcott sanctioned in 1880, with modifications to the slang and homeliness that characterised the first edition.)



"Any reinforcements needed?" asked little Tuesday.

Walter Trier's illustrations suit Kästner's witty text

The arrival of *Emil und die Detektive* in the unstable Berlin of 1928 is hardly comparable to that of *Little Women* among the readers of the *Boston Evening Transcript*, but here too a mould was broken. The subject-matter was one thing. Rarely had children been given a detective story of their own, and rarely had an urban setting been conveyed so naturally. But over and above this was Kästner's witty and occasionally ironical stance as storyteller. His comic preface to the German edition has never, so far as I know, been translated, and Walter Trier's hilarious illustrations have never been properly reproduced here, but the two main English translations of 1931 and 1959 do catch something of Kästner's smiling humour, comradely without being avuncular.

Despite the difficulties of turning his loose-limbed prose into a natural English, both *Emil* and Kästner's later children's stories deserve their place in current paperback lists. Among recent reissues, *The Flying Classroom* is the most problematic: a German boarding-school story which is too short and superficial for its plot. Not even Kästner's conversational control can prevent cliché from intruding upon the character revelations that attend the school play, or upon the Town v. Gown battle, with its unsavoury incident of the boy Kreuzkamm imprisoned in a cellar.

But *Lottie and Lisa (£2.99)* is a gem. First published in 1949, it is an early example of the now all-too-familiar "divorced parents" theme. Unlike most writers who exploit it today, however, Kästner hits upon a clever plot — separated twins changing places — and carries it through with a feeling for the comic rather than the lugubrious.

The confidence and flexibility of Kästner's style sustains him as a modern among moderns — but whether Alcott can still exercise power over young readers is much more uncertain. (Girls I've spoken to have encountered *Little Women* chiefly on film or in Ladybird travesties.) Those with a leaning to dwell among the 19th-century properties, however, will still be won over by its authenticity — "we lived most of it" said Alcott — and its self-awareness (some of the ironic asides are the equal of Kästner's). But experience suggests that Jo and her extended family are now to be found not in soft-lit Concord drawing-rooms, but along the muddy highways of feminist criticism.

Pop goes the wonderful weasel of Oz

Tania Rice

A RIVER TOWN
By Thomas Keneally
Sceptre, £15.99

THE HEAD of a beautiful young woman floating in a jar of embalming fluid might be expected to cause trouble. For Tim Shea — owner of a general store in Kempsey, a remote town in New South Wales — the sight of the head conjures up the woman's ghost. Her restless spirit explains the accidents, both fatal and comic, the quarrels, intrigues and betrayals, the plague and fire that beset him, his family and community.

All because this woman, the victim of a *botched* abortion, has not been identified, nor the man who sealed her fate punished. The burden of solving the mystery falls to Shea because only he is willing to acknowledge the supernatural forces that this injustice has unleashed. After all, it is 1900, and the expectation of Australia's rebirth as a Dominion the following year encourages optimism and the turning of blind eyes.

Shea too sees Australia as the promised land. He loves its raw, unspoilt beauty. But, as a God-fearing Catholic immigrant from Ireland, he still fears its excesses. He has *not forgotten the 1892* flood which was so violent that the river shifted its course. If Australia is Eden it is after the Fall. The citizens have brought with them an average measure of corruption and evil and Shea becomes embroiled in political, as well as celestial, disturbances.

Early in the book, Shea's part in an incident is exaggerated to heroic proportions by a local newspaper report. He sees that he is being manipulated, but is helpless to prevent it. When the local loyalists start whipping up support for the British Boer War effort, he makes an admirable, if brief protest which provokes their wrath and his fall from public grace. Australia's relationship to Britain and the vulnerability of the "ordinary bloke" to both natural and human forces greater than himself — these are familiar preoccupations of Keneally's. Neither the ideas nor the language are new-minted in this, his 23rd novel, though they are still the work of a great storyteller. It is the development of Shea's character that provides the main interest in this book.

Sickening as it is to watch well-intentioned Shea getting caught in the sticky fly-traps of other people's schemes, he is also infuriatingly slow-witted at times. Keneally keeps the pages turning as Shea stumbles into an almost unbelievable string of stomach-tightening disasters. A provoking mixture of generosity and bigotry, sensitivity and pig-headedness, he also stumbles in and out of our affections. In the background, his diminutive but robust wife Kitty, with the help of her sisters, calmly schemes to keep the family from ruin and appears to be the more clear-sighted of the two.

In Keneally's *Schindler's Ark*, which Steven Spielberg adapted for his film *Schindler's List*, Schindler discovers hell on earth and must choose whether to do something or turn away. In *A River Town*, Shea realises that his obsession with the dead girl's identity is making things worse and his real heroism is his unheralded dedication to her cause. No one is perfect in Keneally's world: it is whether people surrender to their worst impulses or respond to their better ones which proves their moral worth.

MARY EVANS



Kempsey, New South Wales: the setting for Keneally's 23rd novel, which revolves around a dead girl's identity

To this pleasing, though at times somewhat predictable read, Keneally brings an unexpected twist. To say exactly what that twist is would ruin the story, but it brought from me a howl of protest. To see suspicions which were formed in Shea's bigoted frame of mind justified, and the reliable Kitty wrong-footed, is extremely uncomfortable. It also updates the otherwise sugary Victorian resolution to our provocative 20th-century uncertainty.

THE TIMES Penguin FESTIVAL OF FICTION

PENGUIN Books is 60 years old this year. In the fifth of a six-week series in which *The Times* publishes excerpts from contemporary reviews of famous novels on the Penguin list, Laurie Lee's *Cider With Rosie*, which subsequently sold over a million copies in Penguin, is heralded quietly.

The evocation of childhood seems to hold an especial enchantment for poets; and the harder the life, the sharper the response. Mr. Lee's was a country, a Cotswold village childhood where, in the 1920s, as one of a family of nine abandoned by his father he knew the harshness of hunger, poverty, superstition, and illness. But he knew, too, the comfort of the cottage hearth, the warmth of companionship.

The village was no pagan paradise, but abided by its own unwritten rules, peopled by characters who have doubtless blossomed more fully with the passing of time: Granny Trill and Granny Wallon, Albert the Devil and Cabbage-Stump Charlie. Mr. Lee writes with a wealth of imagery and at times with almost a pyrotechnic prose; it soars and flashes and sometimes by its very brilliance dazzles and bemuses the eyes; but when that happens one can always turn to the restful relief of Mr. John Ward's more than adequate drawings.

(The Times, November 12, 1959)

Exciting author events in March

THE PENGUIN Festival of Fiction will feature eight midweek and weekend events throughout March, with more than 40 Penguin authors taking part in debates, readings, workshops and signings. Everyone attending will be entered into a FREE PRIZE DRAW to win a hamper full of Penguin goodies each Wednesday and a COMPAQ PRESARIO 460 all-in-one home computer each Saturday.

SATURDAY 18 MARCH.
Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester.
Price £3.50/£2.50 (concessions).
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10.45am Contemporary Fiction: Penelope Lively, Jonathan Coe, Hilary Mantel, Barry Hines
11.30am Break/Signing
12.00pm Sex and Conflict: Andrea Newman, Carol Clewlow
12.45pm Fiction on Screen: Howard Jacobson, Beryl Bainbridge, Michael Frayn
1.30pm Signing
Tickets available from the Royal Exchange Theatre telephone: 061 833 9333

Win a COMPAQ PRESARIO 460 all-in-one home computer complete with an excellent selection of pre-installed software. Compaq is the world's leading computer manufacturer, renowned for its quality and reliability.

WEDNESDAY 22 MARCH.
The Lord Rank Room,
Wesley House, Jesus College,
Jesus Lane, Cambridge CB5 8BL.
Price £3.50/£2.50 (concessions).
Supported by WH Smith.
7.00pm Short Stories, Long Stories: Sybil Marshall, Susan Hill
7.45pm Break
8.00pm Barbara Vine/Ruth Rendell
8.45pm Signing
Tickets available from WH Smith, Cambridge telephone: 0223 311 313

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Tunnel faces holiday chaos

Turn-up-and-wait: **Jonathan Prynn** on mounting trouble for Le Shuttle

Motorists could face long delays on Channel Tunnel journeys to France this summer because of a surprise boom in demand for spaces on the car transporter.

The terminal at Folkestone, Kent, is expected to be swamped by cars at Bank Holiday weekends and throughout August, and motoring organisations said they had growing doubts about Eurotunnel's ability to cope with peak demand.

Eurotunnel said it was confident that the teething problems of its Le Shuttle service would be sorted out by the holiday season, despite hold-ups in the delivery of some of its trains.

The flagging credibility of Le Shuttle was further undermined by last weekend's scenes of ill-tempered drivers waiting in long queues for up to four hours to use the service. The AA urged drivers planning to use the service to book tickets in advance rather than rely on Eurotunnel's much-vaunted "turn up and go" system. But from April 2 passengers will not be able to specify a particular service when they book, but only a day of travel.

Eurotunnel was caught out by the sheer numbers of passengers turning up at its Kent terminal on the first warm weekend of the year. "We are advising people that if they do not already have a ticket for Fridays, Saturdays or Sundays until April 2 they should not turn up until 3pm," said a Eurotunnel spokeswoman. "We clearly underestimated the attractiveness of our service."

The problems on Saturday were caused by Eurotunnel's decision to bring forward the launch of its heavily publicised pay-as-you-board service by a month, with only four of its double-decker trains in operation. In addition, a motorway warning system supposed to warn passengers approaching the terminal on the M20 of delays in the service was not turned on by the police on Eurotunnel's advice because of fears that it would confuse people with pre-booked tickets.

Eurotunnel is currently operating one 120-car train an hour in each direction, but plans to increase this to a peak-time service of four departures an hour by the summer. The Eurotunnel spokeswoman said it was still on target for the summer service, despite delays in the delivery of 108 single-decker Shuttle wagons by their Canadian manufacturer. Five new double-decker trains have been delivered, but are still being tested.

John Lockwood, 46, a Eurotunnel shareholder driving to Munster in Germany for a business trip on Friday, said he had been told he would have to wait for up to four hours to get on a shuttle train because so many were already booked up.

"It was pretty appalling," he said. "I will not use the Eurotunnel again until they get their act together. This isn't just teething problems, this is poor management." Mr Lockwood eventually abandoned the tunnel in favour of a ferry from Dover, arriving in France an hour and a half before he would have done had he waited for a space on a shuttle.

The latest embarrassment for Eurotunnel follows a catalogue of setbacks since the service started in December, including a car fire on a shuttle train, allegations of lax security, a blockade threat by French seamen and regular train breakdowns.

Dalmatia's tourist industry is eager to cash in on the new peace, **Gill Williams** reports

Croatia calls out to Britons

The peaceful compromise in the Krajina crisis has been greeted with relief by Dalmatian tourist resorts, which believe that extension of the United Nations mandate will help to overcome British reluctance to travel to Croatia.

Charter flights will land in Split and holidaymakers will be taken by coach along the coast, crossing a thin strip of Bosnian territory en route to Dubrovnik and the islands.

There are no checkpoints, customs or passport controls on the coastal road between Bosnia and Croatia. Homes and hotels along the route are being rebuilt with help from the Red Cross and a European Union humanitarian task force. About half the region's 30,000 hotel beds will be offered to foreign visitors this summer. The rest are awaiting reconstruction or being used to house refugees.

The Hotel Libertas in Dubrovnik is typical of resorts sheltering hundreds of villagers whose homes were destroyed during the 1991-92 Serbian invasion. Some properties, such as the Hotel Albatross in the nearby village of Cavtat, hope to reopen wings for paying guests this summer while the remainder of the complex is used as a hostel for displaced people.

Mirko Maslac, a member of the Dubrovnik and Neretva District Assembly, said he hoped the easing of tension in Croatia would result in a speedy return of British package tourists. Tourism is vital for Dubrovnik. About half of its residents had lost their jobs when war broke out, and Atlas, the national travel agency, cut its staff from 1,600 to 900.

Mr Maslac said: "The British are particularly important because they are the first to arrive and the last to leave at the end of the holiday season. But persuading them to come back to Dubrovnik is difficult."

In 1989, Dubrovnik, its offshore islands and surrounding villages attracted 1.2 million visitors, bringing $230 million (about £153 million) a year. Last summer, there were only 60,000 visitors — more than half of them from other parts of Croatia, plus Italians and Czechs.

Mario Marusic, Dubrovnik Tourist Board's director, said the city hoped for a return to 10 per cent of its prewar visitor intake this summer. "Much of the infrastructure has been destroyed and we have to rebuild," he explained. "We won't get back to the 1.2 million until the next century."

The city is using the need for rebuilding as an opportunity to upgrade hotels. It plans to introduce a tougher grading system to improve standards of hotel service and facilities so it can attract a wealthier clientele than it did in the prewar days. With this in mind, the marina has been totally restored and the harbour has opened in time to receive Swan Hellenic cruise ships this year.

Phoenix Holidays, with three weekly charter flights to Split — two hours from Dubrovnik — will be the largest British tour operator to use the region this summer. The city's own airport was destroyed in 1991. Reconstruction is well advanced and by Easter, the airport will be working to a third of its original capacity. At present, it is able to handle only one scheduled daily flight from Zagreb, the Croatian capital, and a weekly service from Rome — a far cry from the days when there were 30 peak season charters a month from Bournemouth alone.

Holiday prices are pitched to attract British holidays back to the Dubrovnik coast. Phoenix offers two weeks' half board at the budget Hotel Lapad, an 18th-century palace, for £376 in early June.

The island of Korcula this year celebrates the 700th anniversary of the return of its native son, Marco Polo, from his arduous journey to China. Islanders hope that the festivities will attract independent British travellers and day-trippers, who once made up the majority of their visitors. Korcula is one of the few parts of Dalmatia that escaped occupation or siege in 1991.

Just inside the gates of the old town of Dubrovnik is a map showing the buildings that have been hit by shells. However, visitors wandering through the streets will see remarkably little evidence of this extensive damage. Unesco, the French Government and private donors have funded repairs to ancient monuments and houses. The entire restoration will be completed within three years.

There are few other signs of the war, save for the off-duty soldiers in combat fatigues who sit at outdoor cafés, drinking *cappuccino* and watching people walk by. Food and wine are plentiful — a three-course meal in the packed Primorca restaurant costs about £12 when washed down by a bottle of strong local wine.

Outside the walls, in the modern town and outlying villages, the shell damage is more obvious. The city has not yet returned to the "paradise on earth" described by George Bernard Shaw but neither is it a candidate for inclusion in any future edition of P.J. O'Rourke's *Holidays in Hell*.

GILL WILLIAMS



Dubrovnik: the Adriatic "paradise" is rebuilding its tourist business

Guidebook cashes in on Eurostar

Egon Ronay suggests where to lunch in Paris

Teething problems notwithstanding (see column one), the Channel Tunnel, through Eurostar, has opened the way for fast rail travel to the heart of Paris, and Egon Ronay has taken full advantage with its *Champagne Mumm Guide 1995* Paris edition (Macmillan, £9.95), launched yesterday, which suggests that a day out in the gastronomic capital for shopping and lunch is both delightful and practical.

This is the second year of its Paris guide, and Andrew Eliel, managing director of Egon Ronay Guides, explained: "When we started our series of city guides, it was natural to start with Paris. We think there is a gap in the market for an English guide. There are all the French guides, but we are taking on the French, and it is good to know what we think of Paris."

The guide's restaurant of the year is Faugeron, "a memorable dining experience. In a city not short of a good restaurant or two, Henri Faugeron's immaculate cooking never fails to please", it says.

It is one of four establishments awarded three stars, along with La Tour d'Argent, Taillevent and Guy Savoy. They are supported by seven restaurants with two stars and 16 with one star. The guide also lists more than 50 "personal favourites". These "do not necessarily serve the best food, but they are certainly places we can thoroughly recommend as providing a real atmosphere and taste of Paris, whether a humble bistro or one of the grand tables". And when the train arrives at Gare du Nord, one of its favourites is across the road: the Terminus Nord, a "classic rambling 1925 brasserie".

The guide's hotel of the year is the Ritz, owned by Mohammed Al Fayed, which has had $150 million lavished on it in recent years, including the refurbishment of the Louis XIV interiors and the addition of a vast swimming pool, all "ensuring that the Ritz continues to live up to its own legend", the guide says.

CHRISTOPHER WARMAN

Airport loyalty rewarded

BAA has launched Europe's first airport-user loyalty programme. Available at Gatwick airport from April, the new "BonusPoints" scheme will eventually include Heathrow, Stansted, Southampton, Edinburgh and Aberdeen. Travellers earn points every time they patronise the shops, restaurants or other facilities at Gatwick. For example, every £1 spent on car parking or duty-free shopping earns ten points, which equates to a 5 per cent discount. You redeem the points for retail vouchers or frequent-flyer miles. Details: 0800 844844.

Easy upgrades

BESIDES discounts on hotel accommodation and use of a baggage tracing service, membership of the passenger association IAPA (costing £45) entitles you to be upgraded when flying across the Atlantic with selected airlines. The upgrade offer is usually confirmed at the time of booking with the association's travel agent, and could save you £1,000-plus on a New York trip. Details: 0171-828 7622.

Bargain flights

AVIA, a new South African airline, will offer lower fares between London and Johannesburg when it starts flying on May 9. The carrier will operate thrice weekly from Gatwick using a Boeing 747. Details: 01293 825000.

FARE DEALS

Frankfurt offer

BRITISH Midland (BM) has introduced a cheaper fare between Heathrow and Frankfurt provided you fly at a less busy time. BM's "Off-Peak Budget" tariff costs £120 one-way or £240 return Monday to Friday, on the 1155 and 1600 services ex-Heathrow, and the 0710 and 1120 back from Frankfurt. All weekend flights qualify for the reduced fare. Details: 0345 554554.

Asian triangle

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European triumph restores pride

Spirited Chelsea bring back the feelgood factor



David Miller on an exceptional victory, against the odds, that proved to be the stuff of fantasy

CHELSEA'S unlikely but worthy defeat of FC Bruges, securing them a place in the European Cup Winners' Cup semi-final, was a reminder of professional football's almost forgotten function. It helps us sometimes to be happy and does our self-confidence, collective and individual, no end of good.

There were a lot of happy people after the second leg of the quarter-final at Stamford Bridge on Tuesday, when Bruges were overhauled by goals from Stein and Furlong. It had not been supposed to happen, but it did. The team off-form and wracked by injury, with their captain out of prison on bail, pending an appeal, outran the smart side from overseas.

There was no evident xenophobia. Indeed, the Belgians were recognised for being clever. Yet the victory, achieved by unquenchable spirit, was somehow an echo of all our yesterdays, of Britain's heritage of island security and self-esteem, which has become so eroded on almost every front.

You could feel that those gleefully celebrating every successful home tackle, every clearance, every attack, every near miss, were rejoicing not just in being Chelsea supporters but in being English. There is no crime in such nationalistic emotion, not when it is rational and contained. We can legitimately feel as proud of our football, national or club, as of Shakespeare, Elgar or Rolls-Royce. Here was a victory that sent home 29,000 Chelsea supporters feeling satisfied, and speculating whether they might repeat that now distant Cup Winners' Cup glory of 1971 against Real Madrid in Athens, with the greats such as Cooke, Hudson and Osgood.

Chelsea share with West Ham a record of underachievement; success is elusive and insubstantial, forever just around the corner. Like West Ham, Chelsea are somehow never quite as good as they ought to be. Only for them, rubbing shoulders with the Kings Road posh set, the regular disillusionment is the more painful. Their dreams do not just fade and die, they tend to splatter against some wall, too often named Manchester United, Liverpool or Tottenham.

Football the way it was on Tuesday night — and just as it was between Liverpool and Tottenham in the FA Cup quarter-final last Saturday — can hardly be bettered. It is live theatre, without knowing the plot or the conclusion, and with all the anxiety and joy that such uncertainties can bring. Emotionally, it is the physical equivalent of sitting at the wheel of a Ferrari, infinitely multiplied by being shared with thousands of others.

Football is largely ignored by politicians, unless it provides a picture opportunity, and scorned by most intellectuals and academics, who are largely remote from the need for bonding, either as participants or spectators. Ordinary folk spontaneously understand these streams of life.

Two men of intellect, Priestley and Giraudoux, the French novelist and playwright, took a more enlightened view. Football offers, Priestley wrote, a life of fantasy "away from clanking machinery, a splendid kind of life hurtling with conflict yet passionate and beautiful in its art." Giraudoux wrote: "Football is the king of games. All the great games of man are played with a ball ... that thing which most easily escapes from the laws of life ... that commits effects that are sublime."

Chelsea's football may have been less than sublime on Tuesday night, but the fantasy will continue for a month, for a year. Until the next such time.



Furlong, who scored Chelsea's second goal, battles for possession at Stamford Bridge

Sunshine season to receive trial run in Wales

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

AS THE debate about summer rugby league intensifies, a small but significant first step has been taken in Wales with the launch of a sunshine league.

"It will allow the game to be played in the best weather conditions and, hopefully, produce entertaining, top quality matches," Clive Millman, the Welsh Rugby League (WRL) chief executive, said yesterday.

The WRL is in its infancy, but already has plans for more amateur clubs, in addition to the eight at present in membership, as well as a summer festival in Swansea and Gwent.

The concept of summer rugby league is gathering heavyweight support in the traditional enclaves. The chairmen of Wigan, Bradford and Oldham have come out strongly in favour, and there has been a shift of opinion at league headquarters.

Suggestions of a March-October season no longer cause looks of horror. Maurice Lindsay, the chief executive, is not yet a convert, but has said the arguments are persuasive. Whether they are sufficiently strong to displace fears about rugby league muscling in on an already congested British sporting summer remains to be seen.

Lindsay's evidence today to the National Heritage select committee hearing into relations between rugby league and rugby union will be based on a paper which contends that union's amateur regulations have deliberately obstructed league expansion efforts.

The decision of the International Rugby Football Board this week to allow league players to return to union after a three-year suspension period was described by Lindsay as meaningless. "It is typical of the nonsense that rugby league has had to put up with for a hundred years," he said. "How on earth do the rugby union authorities expect anyone in league to agree to legislation whereby a sportsman cannot play either code for three years?

"Sports administrators are supposed to care for the needs of athletes but, as usual, rugby union administrators care little for the sportsmen themselves, only for their selfish political interests."

IN BRIEF

Fifth seed meets his match in Nielsen

ANDERS NIELSEN followed his unexpected capture of the English national badminton title last month with one of the best wins of his career in the first round of the Yonex All-England championships in Birmingham yesterday (Richard Eaton writes). Nielsen, 28, who lives in Wimbledon, overcame the fifth seed, Dong Jiong, 15-10, 15-8 at the National Indoor Arena.

Nielsen has rarely played better than he did against his Chinese opponent, who won the Asia Cup last year. Another first-day surprise was the defeat of Joko Suprianto, of Indonesia, who won the world championship in the same arena nearly two years ago.

RAF on target

Hockey: Graham Cartmell and Neil Powell, who play for Guildford, were the key figures for the RAF in the 2-0 victory over the Royal Navy in the services championship at Cannock yesterday. Burrell and Burresford scored after short corners in the first half.

Ebdon goes out

Snooker: Ronnie O'Sullivan, who had dispatched Stephen Hendry, beat Peter Ebdon 5-1 in the quarter-finals of the Thailand Open in Bangkok.

Thrilling final

Rackets: John Prenn and James Male beat the favourites, Willie Boone and Tim Cockroft, 15-3, 13-16, 7-15, 15-6, 10-15, 15-3, 15-12 to win the Lacoste amateur doubles championship yesterday in one of the most exciting finals of recent years.

Paul Kipkoech

Athletics: Paul Kipkoech, Kenya's former world 10,000 metres champion, died at his home in Kapsabet on Tuesday after a short illness, according to reports from Nairobi. Kipkoech, who was 33, won his world title in Rome in 1987.

Fine recovery

Bowls: England, who trailed by 17 shots with only 17 ends left to play, recovered to beat Wales, 134-132, in the home international tournament at Nottingham yesterday.

Kenna poised to sign for Blackburn



Kenna: transfer talks

JEFF KENNA, the Southampton defender, was poised to join Blackburn Rovers last night in a £1.5 million transfer. Kenna withdrew from the Southampton squad to face West Ham United at the Dell last night to fly north for talks with Kenny Dalglish, the Blackburn manager.

"Blackburn made an offer which we accepted," Lawrie McMenemy, the Southampton director of football, said. "We told Jeff and naturally he wanted to talk to them. We will be sorry to lose him because Alan Ball and I have watched him make very good progress."

The Ireland international, 24, who joined the club as a trainee, has missed only two matches this season. Dalglish wants him as cover after selling Alan Wright to Aston Villa for £1 million.

John de Wolf, the Wolverhampton Wanderers defender, has suffered a setback in his recuperation after cartilage surgery in Rotterdam. The Holland international, who was injured against Sunderland last week, returned to hospital suffering from a blood clot in his right leg.

Graham Taylor, the Wolves manager, said: "It was a shock to hear that he has had to go back into hospital especially after the earlier good news we had that there was no ligament damage in his right knee."

The development casts doubts over de Wolf's ability to return for the Endsleigh Insurance League first division play-offs, should Wolves be involved.

Billy Kirkwood, a youth coach with Rangers, has emerged as the favourite to succeed Ivan Golac, who was dismissed as manager of Dundee United on Tuesday. He is highly-regarded as a coach and played for the Tannadice club from 1976-1986. Kirkwood will, nonetheless, have to ponder the advisability of leaving the Scottish champions.

There has been controversy over United's interest in their former player, with allegations that Rangers were contacted regarding his availability before Golac had been sacked. The United chairman, Jim McLean, was unavailable for comment.

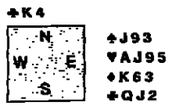
The Celtic manager, Tommy Burns, has been fined £1,000 and banned from the touchline until the end of the season by the Scottish Football Association. Burns had been called in front of the disciplinary committee because of an incident at the end of a premier division match against Partick Thistle in January when he had gone into the referee's room to have words with the referee, Bobby Orr.

The former Albion Rovers manager, Tom Spence, has been fined £300 because of his comments to referee, George Clyde, after the third division match against Alloa on January 14. Now out of football, he was also banned from the touchline for a year should he return to the game.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

You are sitting East, defending 3NT. North opened One Diamond, South bid 1NT and North bid 3NT. Your partner leads the seven of hearts, presumably his fourth highest heart.



The declarer plays low from dummy. Which card do you play?

There are various ways of looking at this problem.

The correct first principles method is to ask yourself, from what holding can the seven be fourth highest? Here that doesn't take long — you won't find another one after you've spotted Q 10 8 7.

I think it is important to understand this complete enumeration method. However there's no denying that in some cases it can be quite time-consuming . Most good players use a rule of thumb which speeds things up — the *Rule of Eleven*. The mechanics of it are that you subtract your partner's lead from 11. That gives you the number of cards held by dummy, yourself, and declarer which are higher than your partner's card.

Here is why it works. The cards in bridge range from two to fourteen (jack = 11, ace = 14). So if you subtract a card's rank from fourteen , that tells you how many are higher . A player who leads fourth highest has exactly three of them . Hence it follows that by subtracting the card's rank from *11* you know how many cards the other *three* players have which are higher than the card led. (Say your partner leads the two. There are 12 higher cards, of which he has three. So there are nine higher cards between the other three hands. Eleven less two is nine — magic isn't it?)

In today's hand partner has led the seven; hence there are four cards above the seven between you, dummy and declarer. You can see all four, so if you play the five the seven will hold the trick. Now your partner can continue hearts. You will take four hearts and eventually the king of diamonds.

The declarer's hand is:

♠K 8 6 ♥6 2
♦10 8 4 ♣A 10 8 7 3

Note that if you play a higher heart at trick one your side will not be able to cash four heart tricks, and the contract will be made.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Lead shared

With two rounds to go in the Linares tournament, the strongest annual competition in the world, a win by the Ukranian Grandmaster Vassily Ivanchuk has brought him level at the head of the standings with the FIDE champion, Anatoly Karpov.

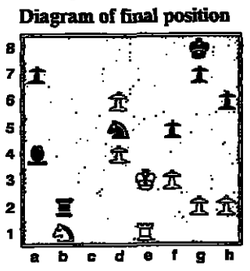
White: Evgeny Bareev
Black: Vassily Ivanchuk
Linares, March 1995

Queen's Indian defence

1	d4	Nf6
2	c4	e6
3	Nf3	b6
4	Nc3	Bb4
5	Qb3	c5
6	Bf4	0-0
7	e3	d5
8	Rd1	Nbd7
9	cxd5	Nxd5
10	Bg5	Qc7
11	Bc4	cxd4
12	Bxd5	Bxc3+
13	bxc3	exd5
14	cxd4	Ba6
15	Nd2	Rfe8
16	Oa3	Qb7
17	f3	Rac8
18	Qb3	Bc4
19	Qa3	Bb5
20	Rb1	Qa6
21	Qxa6	Bxa6
22	Kf2	Rc2
23	Rhd1	h6
24	Bf4	Rec6
25	a3	R8c3
26	Bd6	Rd3
27	Bb4	Bb5
28	a4	Bxa4
29	Ra1	Bb5
30	Ra3	Rxa3
31	Bxa3	Ba4
32	Bc1	b5
33	e4	b4
34	Re1	b3
35	Ke3	b2
36	Bxb2	Rxb2
37	exd5	Nb6
38	d6	f5
39	Nb1	Nd5+

White resigns

Diagram of final position



The latest scores at Linares: Karpov and Ivanchuk 8 points out of 11, Shirov 7; Topalov and Khalifman 6.5; Beliavsky 6; Illescas and Timakov 5.5; Dreev 5, Short, Lautier, Sokolov and Ljubojevic 4; Akopian 3

Schools championship

The zonal winners in the British schools championship, sponsored by *The Times*, are: Methodist College, Belfast; Perth High School, Royal Grammar School, Newcastle, Lancaster Royal Grammar School; Manchester Grammar School, Bailey Grammar School, Bluecoat, Liverpool; Queen Mary's Boys, Walsall; Arden, Solihull; Stamford, King's, Peterborough; Ipswich; Bishop Wordsworth's, Salisbury; Monmouth, Torquay Boys Grammar School; Truro, Christ's Hospital, Horsham; Maidstone Grammar School; Trinity, Croydon, St Paul's, London; Haberdashers' Aske's, Elstree; Christ's College, Finchley; Hampton, Southend Boys' High School; St Teresa's RC Primary School.

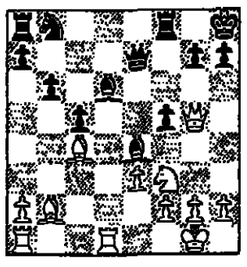
Las Palmas

After a draw in game five the PCA Qualifying match between Gata Kamsky and Viswanathan Anand in Las Palmas is still level pegging at 2.5 points each.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Ashley - Zso Polgar, Bermuda 1995. Here White played 1 Qxg7+ and after 1 ... Qxg7 2 Bxg7+ Kxg7 3 Rxd6 he had regained his sacrificed pawn and went on to win. However, he missed something much more terminal. What should he have played instead?



Solution, page 38

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

SOAPOLALLIE
a. Song sung by laundry-maids
b. Twine used to sew bagpipes
c. Drink made from crushed berries

ZABUTON
a. Taiwanese fish dish
b. Floor cushion
c. Medieval Portuguese governor

TOCHARISH
a. A language
b. Cheeky
c. A Scottish clan

SEAU
a. A bucket-like vessel
b. A French sandal
c. Fine artist's canvas

Answers on page 38

FOR THE RECORD

FOOTBALL

BASS IRISH CUP: Quarter-finals: Loughgall Utd 0 Limfield 1 (aet). Postponed: Cliftonville v Portadown.

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Wimbledon 1 Luton 1. Second division: Cardiff 0 Birmingham 3.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: Second division: Reading 0 Bristol Rovers 0.

Late results on Tuesday

CUP WINNERS' CUP: Quarter-final, second leg: Chelsea 2 FC Bruges 0 (agg: 2-1).

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Crystal Palace 2 Sheffield Wednesday 1, Liverpool 2 Coventry 3.

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE: First division: Middlesbrough 1 Barnsley 1; Oldham 1 Notts County 1; Port Vale 1 Stoke 1. Second division: Wrexham 3 Rotherham 1; York 0 Wycombe 0. Third division: Bury 3 Barnet 0, Walsall 2 Darlington 0.

AUTO WINDSCREENS SHIELD: Northern area final, second leg: Rochdale 2 Carlisle 1 (agg: 3-5).

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Partick 0 Motherwell 0. Second division: Dumbarton 5 Stenhousemuir 1; Greenock 4 Clyde 1.

BOB LORD TROPHY: Semi-finals: First leg: Macclesfield 2 Bromsgrove 1. Second leg: Dagenham and Redbridge 2 Kettering 4 (aet, 4-4 on agg, Kettering win on away goals).

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Cheltenham 1 Dorchester 1; Gresley 1 Chelmsford 0. Southern division: Burnham 1 Yate 1; Clevedon 4 Wealdstone 2; Margate 2 Erith and Belvedere 3; Poole 0 Weston-super-Mare 2, Weymouth 1 Baldock 1. Midland division: Armitage 2 Moor Green 5; Bedworth 0 Bilston 3; Evesham 2 Nuneaton 0; Grantham 0 Stourbridge 1; RC Warwick 2 Leicester Utd 2; Tamworth 1 Sutton Coldfield 0.

DIADORA LEAGUE: First division: Berkhamsted 2 Heybridge 1; Boreham Wood 4 Abingdon Town 0; Chertsey 2 Bognor Regis 0; Dorking 0 Billericay 3; Worthing 0 Newbury 0. League Cup: Fourth round: Marlow 2 Hitchin 0. Semi-final, second leg: Dulwich 1 Slough 2.

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Matlock 5 Whitley Bay 1. First division: Atherton LR 0 Lancaster 0; Farsley Celtic 2 Worksop 2; Harrogate Town 1 Great Harwood 5; Netherfield 1 Gretna 2.

PONTINS LEAGUE: Second division: Grimsby 7 Blackpool 0.

FAI HARP LAGER CUP: Second round: Sligo Rovers 0 Galway Utd 0.

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Holywell 0 Bangor City 2.

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Crusaders 1 Bangor 0.

WILKINSON SWORD LEAGUE CUP: Second round: Omagh Town 2 Ards 3.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Glasshoughton 1 Maltby MW 4; Ossett Town 1 Belper Town 1.

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Chadderton 0 Burscough 5; Marine Road 1 Eastwood Hanley 3.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: BAT 0 Eastleigh 0; Bemerton Heath Harl 1 Cowes Sports 1; Thatcham 2 Portsmouth RN 1.

PARASOL COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Chipstead 2 Merstham 0; Horley Town 2 Netherne 1; Viking Sports 3 Peppard 1.

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Faversham Town 0 Furness 3; Herne Bay 0 Ramsgate 0; Tunbridge Wells 1 Chatham Town 5.

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: Durham City 2 West Auckland 1; R T M Newcastle 2 Dunston FB 1; Tow Law Town 7 Murton 0.

JEWSON LEAGUE: Premier division: Fakenham Town 0 Wisbech Town 3; Haverhill Rovers 0 Cornard Utd 1; Lowestoft Town 4 Watton Utd 0; Newmarket Town 1 Chatteris Town 1; Tiptree Utd 0 Diss Town 4; Wroxham 4 Great Yarmouth Town 1

FA YOUTH CUP: Fifth round replay: Manchester City 3 Sunderland 1 (aet).

SCHOOLS RESULTS: English Schools Snickers Under-19 Trophy: Third round: St Benedict's, Derbyshire 2, Sprowston HS, Norfolk 1

CRICKET

NEW ZEALAND v SRI LANKA
Napier: First Test match

SRI LANKA: First Innings 183 (A Ranatunga 55).

Second Innings

A P Gurusinha lbw b Larsen	9
D P Samaraweera run out	6
S Ranatunga lbw b Larsen	7
P A de Silva c Parore b Morrison	62
H P Tillekeratne c Young b Nash	74
*A Ranatunga b Morrison	26
†C I Dunusinghe b Morrison	91
C P Vaas b Walmsley	36
G P Wickremasinghe c sub b Larsen	16
M Muralitharan not out	10
R Pushpakumara c Parore b Morrison	0
Extras (b 2, lb 7, nb 5)	14
Total	382

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-14, 2-21, 3-22, 4-121, 5-165, 6-305, 7-294, 8-323, 9-352.

BOWLING: Nash 36-12-87-1; Walmsley 39-7-112-1; Larsen 39-13-73-3; Thomson 6-3-10-0; Morrison 25.3-5-61-4.

NEW ZEALAND: First Innings 109 (C P Vaas 5 for 47).

Second Innings

B A Young c Samaraweera b Muralitharan	14
D L Murray c Dunusinghe b Vaas	36
M J Greatbatch c Tillekaratne b Muralitharan	46
S P Fleming c Tillekeratne b Muralitharan	0
*K R Rutherford c Dunusinghe b Vaas	20
S A Thomson c Gurusinha b Muralitheran	4
A C Parore c Tillekaratne b Muralitheran	17
G R Larsen not out	21
D J Nash c Dunusinghe b Vaas	0
D K Morrison c Gurusinha b Vaas	0
K G Walmsley c Dunusinghe b Vaas	4
Extras (b 6, lb 11, nb 6)	23
Total	185

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-37, 2-108, 3-108, 4-112, 5-141, 6-141, 7-166, 8-181, 9-181.

BOWLING: Wickramasinghe 13-2-42-0; Vaas 26.4-10-43-5, Pushpakumara 9-2-19-0; Muralitheran 38-15-64-5.

Umpires: D Cowie (New Zealand) and S Randell (Australia)

Sri Lanka won by 241 runs

ATHLETICS

VALENCIA, Spain: Indoor meeting: Men: 60m: B Surin (Can) 6.57sec. 400m: C Silva (Por) 46.96. 800m: M Chiavarini (It) 1min 47.19sec. 1,500m: F Cacho (Sp) 3:41.00. 2,000m: M Canellas (Sp) 5:03.61 (European record). 60m hurdles: A Johnson (US) 7.50sec. Women: 400m: D Giorgeva (Bul) 52.03. 800m: C Sacramento (Por) 2min 01.79sec.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Utah 107 Orlando 95, Houston 136 Philadelphia 107, Chicago 106 Washington 93; New York 94 Denver 74; Milwaukee 99 Charlotte 88; San Antonio 115 Minnesota 100; Phoenix 116 Detroit 109; Portland 127 Miami 114; Seattle 113 Boston 93; Dallas 91 Sacramento 80.

MEN'S EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS CUP: Quarter-finals, second legs: Panathinaikos 63 Bologna 55 (legs tied 1-1); Limoges 79 Pesaro (It) 66 (legs tied 1-1); Real Madrid 82 Cibona Zagreb 70 (Real Madrid won 2-0); Olympiakos 86 CSKA Moscow 77 (legs tied 1-1).

HOCKEY

INTER-SERVICES CHAMPIONSHIP: RAF 2, Royal Navy 0 (at Cannock).

BRITISH UNIVERSITIES CHAMPIONSHIP: Women: Final: Loughborough 2 Bristol 0 (at Sheffield).

LACROSSE

BRITISH UNIVERSITIES SPORTS ASSOCIATION CHAMPIONSHIP: Women: Final: Birmingham University 8, University of Brighton 3 (at Reading).

SUNBURY: National schools tournament: Boyd Cup (seniors): Semi-finals: Downs House 1 Moreton Hall 5; Benenden 1 St Albans 0. Final: Benenden 2 Moreton Hall 2 (trophy shared).

BADMINTON

BIRMINGHAM: All-England championships: Men's singles: First round: H Hendra (Swtz) bt S Pandya (Eng) 15-12, 15-11; T Wapp (Switz) bt A Bush (Eng) 12-15, 15-6, 15-8; H Susanto (Indo) bt R Knock (Eng) 15-9, 15-6; R Sidek (Malay) bt P Bush (Eng) 15-7, 15-6; B Flockhart (Scot) bt Pang Chen (Malay) 18-14, 17-16; A Nielsen (Eng) bt Dong Jiong (China) 15-10, 15-8; J van Soeriand (Holl) bt P Knowles (Eng) 15-8, 15-7; Mohd Rosfin Hashim (Malay) bt C Haughton (Eng) 15-11, 15-12; D Hall (Eng) bt J Olsson (Swe) 15-7, 15-2. Second round: Park Sung-woo (S Kor) bt Supranto (Indo) 15-11, 15-4; F Permadi (Tai) bt Hendra 18-18, 15-7, 15-10; H Artx (Indo) bt Wapp 15-7, 15-4. Women's singles: First round: E Suchareva (Russ) bt T Groves (Eng) 7-11, 11-5, 11-8; T Berg (Den) bt T Hallam (Eng) 11-2, 11-8, Lee Joo-hyun (S Kor) bt J Wilmot (Eng) 11-5, 11-0; I Yaliusheva (Russ) bt E Chaffin (Eng) 11-3, 11-7; Y Santosa (Indo) bt A Gibson (Scot) 11-2, 11-2; T Ida (Japan) bt S Dimbour (Wales) 11-2, 11-1.

BOWLS

ATHERLEY TROPHY (women's indoor county championship): Semi-finals: Norfolk 134, Yorkshire 114; Surrey 117, Berkshire 114.

BOXING

LEVALLOIS-PERRET, France: European cruiserweight championship: Patrice Aoussi (Fr) ko Alexander Gurov (Ukr, holder), 3rd rnd.

NEW ORLEANS: Bantamweight bout: Wayne McCullough (Belfast) Geronimo Cordoz (Mex) rsc 7th rnd.

CYCLING

TIRRENO TO ADRIATICO RACE: Final stage (to end from San Benedetto del Tronto, 164 kilometres): 1, J Svorada (Slovakia) 4hr 25min 04sec; 2, D Abdujaparov (Uzbekistan); 3, G Cattano (It); 4, Z Spruch (Pol); 5, E Zabel (Ger); 6, R Pagnin (It); all same time. Final positions: 1, S Colage (It) 37hr 35min 39sec; 2, M Fondriest (It) at 22sec; 3, D Konychev (Russ) at 27.

GOLF

LA MANGA, Spain: Women's European Tour qualifying school: Leaders after two rounds: 143: S Dallongeville (Fr) 73, 70. 145: M Arruti (Sp) 74, 71. 146: R Bolas 73, 73. 147: L Brooky (NZ) 74, 73; T Fischer (Ger) 77, 70. 148: N Fink (Austria) 72, 76; D Booker (Aus) 72, 76; C Sorenstam (Swe) 78, 70

FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

European Cup Winners' Cup
Quarter-final, second leg
AJ Auxerre (1) v Arsenal (1) (7.30) .....
FC Porto (1) v Sampdoria (0) (8.30) .....
Real Zaragoza (0) v Feyenoord (1) (7.30)

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Bolton v Derby (7.0). Second division: Burnley v Preston (7.15).

ENGLISH SCHOOLS MATCHES: Premier League Under-19 Trophy: Quarter-final: Humberside v Lancashire (at Scunthorpe 7.0). Snickers Under-19 Trophy: Third round replay: Northgate High School, Suffolk v Ardingly College, Sussex (at Cranes, Ipswich, 2.0).

OTHER SPORT

BADMINTON: All England championships (National Indoor Arena, Birmingham).

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League (8.0): Birmingham v Doncaster; London Towers v Thames Valley.

BOWLS: Men's British championships (Nottingham)

RUGBY UNION: Club match: Wigtownshire v Stewartry (7.30).

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Hartford 6 New York Islanders 4; Detroit 5 Los Angeles 2; Buffalo 2 Florida 1; New Jersey 4 Ottawa 2; Vancouver 3 Winnipeg 3; Edmonton 6 St Louis 5

RACKETS

QUEEN'S CLUB, London: Lacoste British amateur doubles championship: Final: J Male and J Prenn bt W Boone and T Cockroft 15-3, 13-16, 7-15, 15-8, 10-15, 15-3, 15-12

REAL TENNIS

LORD'S: British Land amateur championship. Quarter-final: I Snell bt N O'Hagan 6-1, 6-1, 6-0

RUGBY UNION

HEINEKEN LEAGUE: Third division: Tredegar 13 Mountain Ash 9.

HOSPITALS' CUP: Final: St Mary's 3 Charing Cross-Westminster 6.

CLUB MATCHES: Abercarn 10 Newbridge 20; Abercynon 15 Rumney 0; Blaina 28 Aberavon 31; Northampton 21 RAF 49; Neath 38 Cross Keys 22; Pontypool 21 Maesteg 30.

SKIING

BORMIO, Italy: World Cup event: Men's downhill: 1, L Alphand (Fr) 1min 53.50sec. 2, A J Kitt (US) 1:53.79; 3, L Kjus (Nor) 1:53.92; 4, P Resnick (Austria) 1:53.98; 5, P Ortlieb (Austria) 1:53.97; 6, K Ghedina (It) 1.54.03. World Cup positions: Downhill (final): 1, Alphand 484pts; 2, Ghedina 473; 3, Ortlieb 426; 4, Assinger 419; 5, J Strobl (Austria) 307; 41, G Bell (GB) 22. Overall: 1, A Tomba (It) 1,050; 2, J Kosir (Slovenia) 700; 3, M Girardelli (Lux) 670; 104, Bell 22. Women's downhill: 1, P Street (US) 1min 38.41sec; 2, W Zelenskaja (Russ) 1:38.52; 3, B Merlin (It) 1:38.71, 4, H Lindh (US) 1:38.84; 5, K Seizinger (Ger) 1:38.91; 6, M Gerg-Leitner (Ger) 1:38.94. World Cup positions: Downhill (final): 1, Street 708pts; 2, Lindh 493, 3, Seizinger 445; 4, Zelenskaja 416 Overall: 1, V Schneider (Switz) 1,119; 2, Seizenger 1,100; 3, H Zeller-Beehler (Switz) 1,012.

SNOOKER

BANGKOK: Thailand Open: Second round: J Wattana (Thai) bt W Thorne (Eng) 5-4.

SQUASH

EDGBASTON PRIORY: National schools championships: Boys: Final: Millfield bt Ecclesbourne 5-0. Girls: Final: George Watson's bt Millfield 3-2.

TENNIS

ST PETERSBURG, Russia: Men's tournament: T Middleton (US) bt T Muster (Austria) 7-5, 6-3; A Cherkasov (Russ) bt G Ruseduski (Can) 6-4, 3-6, 6-2; N Kiefer (Ger) bt M Sinner (Ger) 6-1, 6-2; G Raoux (Fr) bt A Mronz (Ger) 6-3, 6-3. Second round: J Hlasek (Switz) bt G Dzakic (Lat) 6-2, 6-3; S Lareau (Can) bt A Antonitsch (Austria) 2-8, 6-4, 7-5.

POOLS DIVIDENDS

For matches played March 11

LITTLEWOODS: Treble chance: 20½pts — £33,040.50; 20 — £347.90; 19½ — £52.90; 19 — £6.75; 18½ — £3.30. Four draws: £193.20. Ten homes: £2.30. Five aways: £1,938.15

VERNONS: Treble chance (four dividends only, see rule 10F): 20½pts — £10,770.95; 20 — £94.25; 19½ — £19.30; 19 — £2.25. Ten homes: £1.55. Five aways: £179.50.

ZETTERS: Treble chance: 21½pts — £3,048.30; 21 — £39.20; 20½ — £38.70; 20 — £1.00. Four draws: £111.20. Four homes: £23.00 Four aways: £100.40. Lucky numbers: 24, 11, 1, 28, 21, 20.

Gold Cup takes centre stage at Cheltenham

Master Oats in peak form to scale chasing's summit



Richard Evans expects the Bailey team to complete a memorable double in the Festival showpiece

NOT so long ago he was just a humble handicapper, whose horizons did not extend beyond Southwell and Lingfield, let alone focus upon the jewel in jump racing's crown.

Even at the start of this season, his owner and trainer dared to dream only of the Welsh National and possibly Aintree, but this afternoon Master Oats can complete a rags-to-riches story by winning the Tote Cheltenham Gold Cup.

In many ways, the career of the strapping nine-year-old mirrors that of Burrough Hill Lad, the Jenny Pitman-trained chaser who scaled National Hunt's peak in 1984. Both horses started from ignominious roots, both conquered an early aversion to fences, and both burst to prominence with crushing victories in the Welsh National.

The similarities do not end there. There is more beast than beauty about both horses, whose giant physiques will have ensured their connections many sleepless nights. The more powerful the thoroughbred, it seems, the more fragile is his constitution. Master Oats is certainly no exception. A special stress-free training routine, involving regular canters in splendid isolation at Lambourn, was devised to suit his special needs.

Like an errant child, his favoured playground is a mudbath, which best describes the terrain on which he has claimed his scalps this season. They range from the Grand National winner, Party Politics, to the Scottish National winner, Earth Summit. But his most significant victory, and the one which convinced his nearest and dearest that an appointment here this afternoon was not mere fantasy, was gained at Cheltenham in January.

After being restrained early on, Norman Williamson launched Master Oats at Barton Bank, Dubacilla and Young Hustler some five fences from the finish. The race collapsed as a contest from that point. Master Oats looks to have little to fear from those rivals today.

The same cannot be said of **Jodami**, whose Leopardstown defeat of the Irish hope, Merry Gale, and his subsequent homework has convinced Peter Beaumont that his classy individual is right back to the form which saw him win this race two years ago.

Although the rider of Merry Gale dropped his whip at a crucial stage of the run-in at Leopardstown, Jodami can confirm the form over a trip which will impose the maximum strain on the stamina of the Irish challenger. However, of greater concern is Jodami's record earlier this season which ended with him parting company on both occasions with Mark Dwyer. Add to that the historical point that no Gold Cup winner, subsequently beaten in the race, has reclaimed the prize and the balance is tipped against him.

While Ireland may have to wait another year before they can savour Gold Cup success, last achieved by Dawn Run back in 1986, the French are doubly represented after the triumph of The Fellow last year.

Algan, who took advantage of Barton Bank's last-fence tumble to win the King George VI Chase, and **Val D'Alene**, successful in the Racing Post Chase, are both trained by Francois Doumen, who handles The Fellow.

Both horses are likely to be held up and, if previous races are any guide, will be towards the outside of the chasing pack. A faster strip of ground near the inside rail may mean they have to plug through the worst of the sticky patches of going. If the form book is to be believed, both must find considerable improvement on their first run here to win.

Monsieur Le Cure, last season's top staying novice chaser, returned to some kind of form when winning at Wincanton last month. By chance, the horse he beat that day, Sunley Bay, finished third to Master Oats at Lingfield 14 months ago since when the victor has improved by 40lb according to the official ratings.

The ground may have just dried up too much for **Miinnehoma**, who possesses plenty of speed in addition to reserves of stamina which enabled him to win the 1994 Grand National.

Twelve months ago **Deep Bramble** finished six lengths adrift of Martin Pipe's chaser, but he has gone from strength to strength since moving to Paul Nicholls's yard in the West Country and he can make the frame.

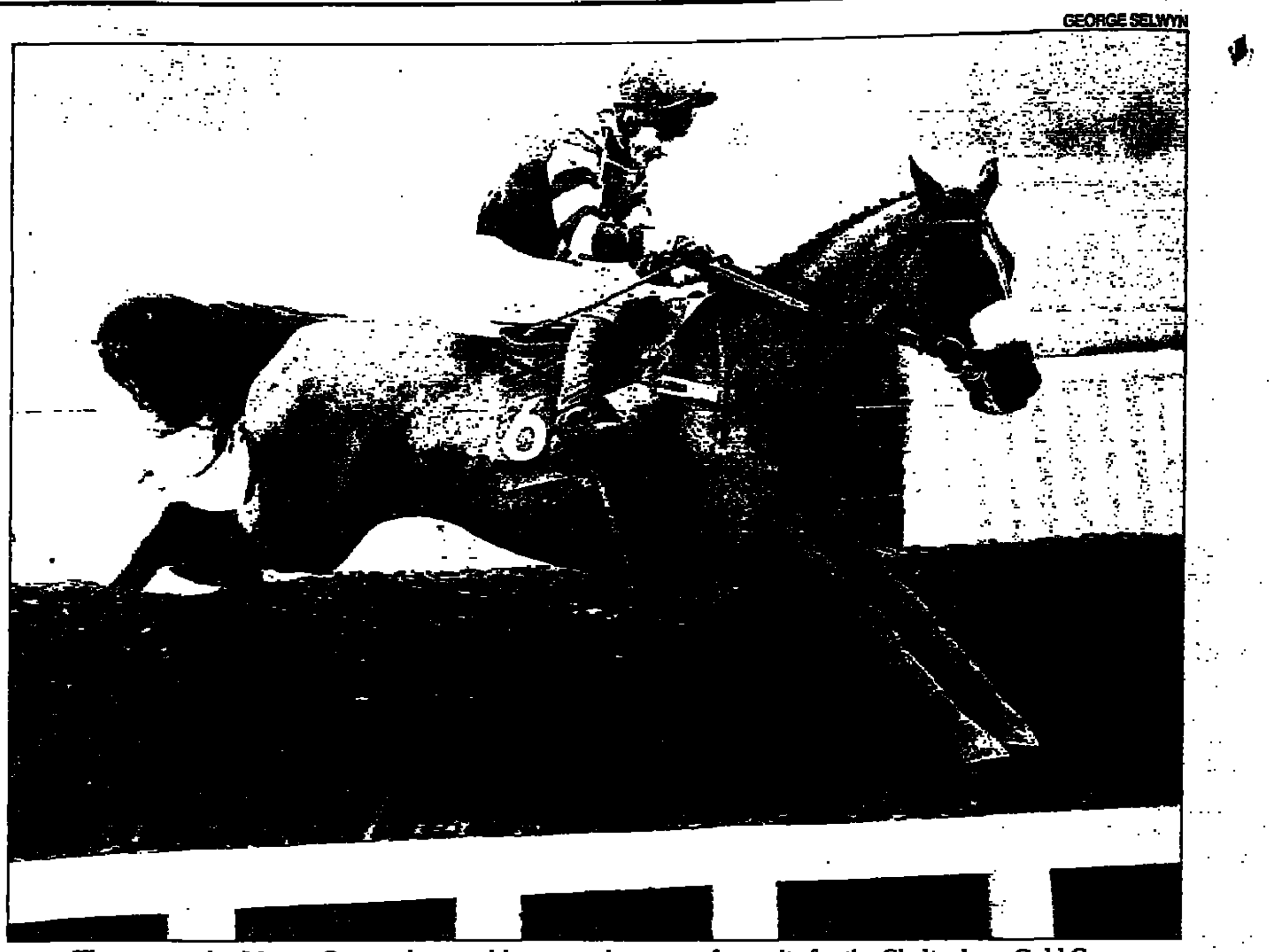
However, for the winner look no further than **MASTER OATS**, who can complete a memorable Festival for Kim Bailey and Norman Williamson, who were victorious with Alderbrook in the Champion Hurdle.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: DORANS PRIDE (2.50 Cheltenham)

Next best: Gaelstrom (5.15 Cheltenham)

Thunderer followed up Tuesday's big-race success with Alderbrook by selecting two 7-1 Festival winners yesterday, Putty Road and Front Line, and Kadi (11-2). Richard Evans gave Viking Flagship (5-2)



GEORGE SELWYN

The progressive Master Oats, unbeaten this season, is a warm favourite for the Cheltenham Gold Cup

BIG RACE LINE-UP

3.30 TOTE CHELTENHAM GOLD CUP CHASE C4
(Grade I: £122,540: 3m 2f 110yd) (17 runners)

301 151315 ALGAN 19 (S) (Marquesa de Moratalla) F Doumen (Fr) 7-12-0 ... Philippe Chevalier 83
Red, light green cap
302 111-RU3 BARTON BANK 47 (C,D,G,S) (Mrs J Mould) D Nicholson 9-12-0 ... D Bridgwater 96
Emerald green, white stars, emerald green cap, white star
303 22/6513 BEECH ROAD 47 (C,F,G,S) (Mrs T Geake) G Balding 13-12-0 ... A P McCoy 70
Brown, fawn cross-belts, orange sleeves and cap
304 143141 COMMERCIAL ARTIST 35 (G,S) (Mrs D Thompson) V Bowens (Ire) 9-12-0 C Bowens 74
Pink, purple cross-belts, hooped sleeves, purple cap
305 0P-5011 DEEP BRAMBLE 40 (G,S) (P Barber) P Nicholls 8-12-0 ... C Maude 85
Dark Green, white chevron, light green sleeves, dark green and white check cap
306 F45-331 FLASHING STEEL 18 (C,G,S) (C Haughey) J Mulhern (Ire) 10-12-0 ... J Osborne 83
Black, blue sash and cap
307 312-U21 JODAMI 39 (CD,F,G,S) (J Yeadon) P Beaumont 10-12-0 ... M Dwyer 88
Light green, black sash, black and white hooped sleeves and cap
308 1F1-111 MASTER OATS 47 (C,D,F,G,S) (P Mathews) K Bailey 9-12-0 ... N Williamson 99
Black, yellow chevron, chevrons on sleeves
309 431F12 MERRY GALE 39 (G,S) (H Stanley) J Dreaper (Ire) 7-12-0 ... G Bradley 85
White, yellow diamonds, yellow sleeves, quartered cap
310 3P/101-1 MIINNEHOMA 68 (C,D,F,G,S) (F Starr) M Pipe 12-12-0 ... R Dunwoody 91
Red, yellow star and sleeves, yellow cap, red star
311 1-34241 MONSIEUR LE CURE 21 (C,G,S) (H Brown) J Edwards 9-12-0 ... P Niven 79
Orange, black and white hooped cap
312 122231 NUAFFE 19 (D,G,S) (J Doyle) P Fahy (Ire) 10-12-0 ... S O'Donovan 72
Dark green, red diamond on body, red diamonds on sleeves and cap
313 1F-3625 ROYAL ATHLETE 12 (C,D,F,G,S) (G & L Johnson) Mrs J Pitman 12-12-0 W Marston 80
Dark blue, white sleeves, dark blue seams, red cap, dark blue spots
314 6-03236 SECOND SCHEDUAL 39 (C,F,G,S) Miss A McMahon (Ire) 10-12-0 ... K O'Brien 80
Rust, green sash and cuffs, quartered cap
315 12-2111 VAL D'ALENE 19 (G,S) (M de Moncton) F Doumen (Fr) 8-12-0 ... A Kondrat 91
Blue and yellow hoops, blue sleeves, black cap
316 6-15442 YOUNG HUSTLER 35 (C,BF,F,G,S) (G MacEchern) N T-Davies 8-12-0 ... C Llewellyn 87
Dark blue, yellow stripe, yellow sleeves, dark blue armlets and star on yellow cap
317 3-10252 DUBACILLA 47 (C,G,S) (H Cole) D Nicholson 9-11-9 ... D Gallagher 89
Dark blue, pink cap, dark blue star

BETTING: 11-4 Master Oats, 9-2 Jodami, 8-1 Miinnehoma, 9-1 Barton Bank, Merry Gale, Monsieur Le Cure, Val D'Alene, 10-1 Algan, 14-1 Deep Bramble, 25-1 Dubacilla, 40-1 Flashing Steel, Young Hustler, 50-1 Nuaffe, 66-1 Second Schedual, 100-1 Commercial Artist, 150-1 Beech Road, Royal Athlete.

1994: THE FELLOW 9-12-0 A Kondrat (7-1) F Doumen (Fr) 15 ran

COMPREHENSIVE FORM FOR THE 17 CONTENDERS

ALGAN
Feb 25, Kempton, heavy: see Val D'Alene.
Dec 26, Kempton, soft: (11-10) beat Monsieur Le Cure (11-10) 2½l with Second Schedual (11-10) head 3rd, Young Hustler (11-10) 4l 4th and Barton Bank (11-10) clear when unseated last (3m, grade I ch, £58,505, 9 ran).

BARTON BANK
Jan 28, Cheltenham, heavy: see Master Oats.
Dec 26, Kempton, soft: see Algan.
Oct 29, Wetherby, good: see Young Hustler.

BEECH ROAD
Jan 28, Cheltenham, heavy: (10-5) 32l 3rd to Couldnt Be Better (10-0) (2m 5f, h'cap ch, £8,403, 10 ran).
Jan 14, Cheltenham, good to soft: (11-7) beat Jumbeau (10-10) 15l (2m 5f, h'cap ch, £6,970, 8 ran).
Dec 10, Cheltenham, good to soft: see Nuaffe.
Nov 12, Cheltenham, good to soft: see Second Schedual.

COMMERCIAL ARTIST
Feb 9, Thurles, heavy: (12-0) beat Eveid (11-11) 9l (2m 4f, gd II ch, £9,675, 7 ran).
Feb 5, Leopardstown, soft to heavy: see Jodami.
Dec 28, Leopardstown, heavy: (12-0) beat Nuaffe (11-11) 13l with Flashing Steel (12-0) distance 3rd and Merry Gale (11-11) fell 3rd (3m, gd II ch, £33,500, 5 ran).
Nov 12, Cheltenham, good to soft: see Second Schedual.

DEEP BRAMBLE
Feb 4, Sandown, soft: (11-10) beat Superior Finish (10-7) 5l with Royal Athlete (11-12) 22l 6th (2m 110yd, gd II h'cap ch, £19,560, 11 ran).
Jan 7, Sandown, good to soft: (11-3) beat Riverside Boy (10-12) 1½l with Dubacilla (12-0) 1½l 5th (3m 5f, h'cap ch, £17,587, 10 ran).
Nov 26, Newbury, good to soft: see Commercial Artist.
Oct 29, Wetherby, good: see Young Hustler.
Mar 17, Cheltenham, good: see Jodami.

FLASHING STEEL
Feb 26, Fairyhouse, soft: (12-0) beat Lacken Cross (9-7) 5l (3m 1f, h'cap ch, £6,850, 4 ran).
Dec 28, Leopardstown, heavy: see Commercial Artist.
Dec 18, Navan, heavy: (12-0) 6½l 3rd to Bart Owen (9-9) (3m, h'cap ch, £6,850, 6 ran).
Mar 17, Cheltenham, good: see Jodami.

JODAMI
Feb 5, Leopardstown, soft to heavy: (12-0) beat Merry Gale (12-0) 3l with Nuaffe (12-0) 15l, Commercial Artist (12-0) [illegible] 4th and Second Schedual (12-0) distance last (3m, gd I ch, £46,750, 6 ran).
Dec 26, Wetherby, good: (12-0) fell 3 out, remounted 2nd to Cogent (10-13) (3m 110yd, h'cap ch, £13,290, 3 ran).
Mar 17 1994, Cheltenham, good: (12-0) 1½l 2nd to The Fellow (12-0) with Young Hustler (12-0) 4l 3rd, Flashing Steel (12-0) 4l 4th, Miinnehoma (12-0) 12½l 7th and Deep Bramble (12-0) short-head 8th (3m 2f 110yd, gd I ch, £116,770, 15 ran).

MASTER OATS
Jan 28, Cheltenham, heavy: (11-6) beat Dubacilla (11-5) 15l with Barton Bank (11-12) 2½l 3rd and Young Hustler (11-12) 5l 4th (3m 1f 110yd, ch, £13,615, 7 ran).
Dec 31, Newbury, heavy: (11-6) beat Earth Summit (10-12) 20l (3m 6f, h'cap ch, £24,466, 8 ran).
Apr 9, Aintree, heavy: see Miinnehoma.

MERRY GALE
Feb 5, Leopardstown, soft to heavy: see Jodami.
Dec 28, Leopardstown, heavy: see Commercial Artist.

MIINNEHOMA
Jan 7, Haydock, soft: (11-8) beat General Pershing (10-7) [illegible] (3m 4f, h'cap ch, £17,211, 3 ran).
Apr 9, Aintree, heavy: (10-8) beat Just So (10-3) 1¼l with Young Hustler (10-12) brought down 11th and Master Oats (10-0) fell 13th (4m 4f, gd III h'cap ch, £115,606, 36 ran).
Mar 17 1994, Cheltenham, good: see Jodami.

MONSIEUR LE CURE
Feb 23, Wincanton, soft: (11-7) beat Sunley Bay (11-2) 30l (2m 7f 110yd, ch, £10,236, 6 ran).
Jan 21, Haydock, heavy: (10-8) tailed off last behind Earth Summit (10-4) (3m, 4m h'cap ch, £15,625, 4 ran).
Dec 26, Kempton, soft: see Algan.
Dec 10, Cheltenham, good to soft: see Nuaffe.

NUAFFE
Feb 25, Haydock, heavy: (10-11) beat Riverside Boy (10-13) ½l (3m 4f 110yd, h'cap ch, £25,523, 10 ran).
Feb 5, Leopardstown, heavy: see Jodami.
Dec 28, Leopardstown, heavy: see Commercial Artist.
Dec 10, Cheltenham, good to soft: (10-0) sh hd 2nd to Dublin Flyer (10-2) with Monsieur Le Cure (11-2) 8¾l 4th and Beech Road (10-0) 1¼l 5th (2m 5f h'cap ch, £38,386, 11 ran).

ROYAL ATHLETE
Mar 4, Doncaster, good: (10-11) 37l 5th to Cab On Target (12-0) (3m 110yd, h'cap hdl, £4,816, 9 ran)
Feb 4, Sandown, soft: see Deep Bramble.

SECOND SCHEDUAL
Feb 5, Leopardstown, heavy: see Jodami.
Dec 26, Kempton, soft: see Algan.

VAL D'ALENE
Feb 25, Kempton, heavy: (11-2) beat Southolt (10-2) 20l with Algan (11-10) tailed off 5th (3m, gd III h'cap ch, £29,700, 9 ran)

YOUNG HUSTLER
Feb 9, Wincanton, soft: (12-0) 2l 2nd to Garrison Savannah (11-10) (2m 5f, ch, £6,872, 5 ran).
Jan 28, Cheltenham, heavy: see Master Oats.
Dec 26, Kempton, soft: see Algan.
Dec 17, Ascot, good: see Dubacilla.
Oct 29, Wetherby, good: (11-10) beat Run For Free (11-2) 15l with Deep Bramble (11-10) 35l 5th and Barton Bank (11-10) beaten 2nd when fell 2 out.
Apr 9, Aintree, heavy: see Miinnehoma.
Mar 17 1994, Cheltenham, good: see Jodami.

DUBACILLA
Jan 28, Cheltenham, heavy: see Master Oats.
Jan 7, Sandown, good to soft: see Deep Bramble.
Dec 17, Ascot, good: (11-3) 1¼l 2nd to Raymylette (10-9) with Young Hustler (12-0) 12¼l 5th (3m 110yd, h'cap ch, £21,036, 8 ran).
Nov 26, Newbury, good to soft: see Commercial Artist.
Selection: VAL D'ALENE

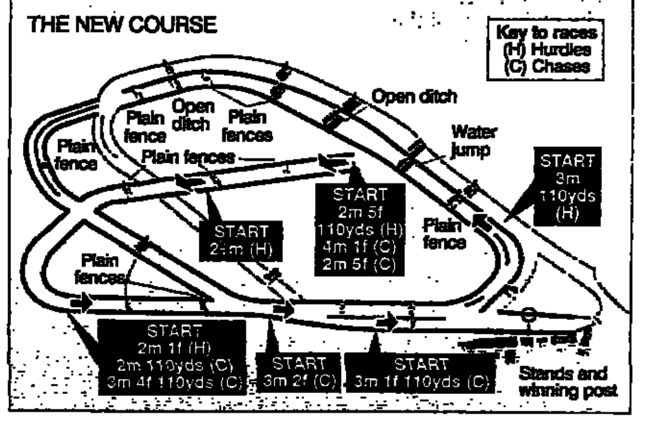
CHELTENHAM

THUNDERER
2.15 Balanak
2.50 Cyborgo
3.30 Jodami
4.05 River Bounty
4.40 Thumbs Up
5.15 GAELSTROM (nap)
5.50 Blast Freeze

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.30 MASTER OATS.
Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.50 Halkopous.
Brian Beel: 4.05 Double Silk.

GUIDE TO CHELTENHAM

THE NEW COURSE



GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 ... B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: SOFT (HEAVY IN PLACES) SIS

2.15 DAILY EXPRESS TRIUMPH HURDLE C4
(Grade I: 4-Y-O: £39,098: 2m 1f) (28 runners)

101 6620 AINSI SOIT IL 31 (B,BF) (A-Men Partnership) F Murphy 11-0 ... D Bridgwater 64
102 2612 AMANCIO 21 (S) (Lady Harrison) G Harwood 11-0 ... M Perrett 77
103 111111 ANZUM 34 (D,G,S) (The Old Foresters Partnership) D Nicholson 11-0 ... W Marston 94
104 6506 ASTRAL INVASION 19 (B) (Ed Weetman, Reynolds and Dean) W Clay 11-0 ... J Lodder 55
105 BACKGAMMON 170F (W Stait) J Old 11-0 ... T Grantham —
106 111 BALANAK 19 (S) (W Dore) D Gandolfo 11-0 ... M Dwyer 99
107 1211 BRAVE TORNADO 47 (CD,S) (Miss B Swire) G Balding 11-0 ... A P McCoy 84
108 1121 CLIFTON BEAT 21 (S) (D O'Connor) P Hobbs 11-0 ... G McCourt 80
109 341122 DR LEUNT 103 (G) (P Emery) P Hobbs 11-0 ... T Horgan 83
110 140 GOBSMACKED 19 (B,S) (J Potter) G Richards 11-0 ... A Dobbin 84
111 12151 GOLDEN ARROW 61 (CD,F,S) (P Mellon) I Balding 11-0 ... G Bradley 84
112 221111 GREENBACK 19 (D,F,G,S) (J Joseph) P Hobbs 11-0 ... Peter Hobbs 93
113 311 KISSAIR 26 (S) (T Benson) M Pipe 11-0 ... J Lower 81
114 131411 MAJESTIC MAN 25 (G,S) (Wooden Horse Syndicate) P McCreery (Ire) 11-0 T Mitchell 98
115 0 MAMNOON 6 (B) (Mrs V Wood) W Clay 11-0 ... Diane Clay —
116 3561 MARLINO 19 (G) (B & T Racing Club) N Twiston-Davies 11-0 ... C Llewellyn 60
117 211340 NASHVILLE STAR 61 (V,D,F,G) (R Mathew) R Mathew 11-0 ... M A Fitzgerald 60
118 516552 OZZIE JONES 19 (F) (M O'Donnell) M Chapman 11-0 ... W Worthington 64
119 4221 SHOOFK 8 (D,S) (S Devine) S Dow 11-0 ... R Dunwoody 68
120 111112 SILVER WEDGE 19 (B,CD,BF,G,S) (Mrs S Robins) D Nicholson 11-0 ... N Williamson 86
121 11 STOMPIN 37 (B,S) (The Voice Group) Miss H Knight 11-0 ... J Osborne 80
122 0 SWEET TRENTINO 7 (Hingley and Catlow Oils) C Smith 11-0 ... D Gallagher —
123 63 TUKANO 21 (Mrs T McCoubrey) J Jenkins 11-0 ... C O'Dwyer 58
124 3111 UNCLE DOUG 41 (G,S) (D Saul) Mrs M Reveley 11-0 ... P Niven 84
125 40 GLAMOUR GAME 36 (P Howell) W Jenks 10-9 ... T Jenks 59
126 460133 GLORIETTE 11 (S) (J McDonnell) J McDonnell (Ire) 10-9 ... K D Maher 80
127 11 LADY'S VISION 69 (S) (Dr M Smerill) P Flynn (Ire) 10-9 ... K O'Brien 85
128 161124 NOTCOMPLAININGBUT 11 (G,S) (Mrs C Moore) P Mullins (Ire) 10-9 ... T P Treacy 86

BETTING: 7-2 Balanak, 6-1 Anzum, 7-1 Silver Wedge, 10-1 Majestic Man, 11-1 Greenback, Brave Tornado, 14-1 Stompin, 16-1 Lady's Vision, 20-1 Clifton Beat, Uncle Doug, Golden Arrow, Kissair, 25-1 others.

1994: MYSILV 4-10-9 A Maguire (2-1 fav) D Nicholson 28 ran

FORM FOCUS

ANZUM, completed six-timer, beat Karlase Ka 20l in 4-runner conditions juvenile hurdle at Newbury (2m 110yd, heavy). BALANAK, completed treble, beat Taos 12l in 9-runner grade II Dovecote Novices' Hurdle at Kempton (2m, heavy). BRAVE TORNADO, completed double, beat CLIFTON BEAT 4l in 10-runner grade II Finesse Juvenile Hurdle over course and distance (heavy) with AMANCIO (4lb worse off) 31l 6th. GOLDEN ARROW beat SHOOFK (12lb worse off) 3½l in 13-runner novice hurdle over course and distance (good to soft) with KISSAIR (12lb worse off) 9l 3rd and NASHVILLE STAR distant 10th. GREENBACK completed four-timer, beat SILVER WEDGE (4lb better off) 30l in 7-runner grade II Adonis Juvenile Hurdle at Kempton (2m, heavy). KISSAIR, completed double, beat Meinik 15l in 8-runner novice hurdle at Windsor (2m, heavy). MAJESTIC MAN, completed double, beat NOTCOMPLAININGBUT (3lb better off) 15l in 7-runner grade III Murphy's Irish Stout Hurdle at Punchestown (2m, heavy) with GLORIETTE 3l 3rd. Earlier beat DR LEUNT (3lb better off) 1½l in 7-runner grade III Juvenile Hurdle at Fairyhouse (2m, yielding). SILVER WEDGE, completed five-timer penultimate start, beat Callisoe Bay 1½l in 5-runner grade I Banning Tolworth Hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, soft). LADY'S VISION, completed double, beat Sea Fisher 3½l in 9-runner juvenile hurdle at Thurles (2m, heavy).
Selection: ANZUM

2.50 BONUSPRINT STAYERS HURDLE C4
(Grade I: £47,423: 3m 110yd) (12 runners)

201 /111-31 BOKARO 20 (G,S) (Dr A O'Reilly) C Brooks 9-11-10 ... G Bradley 73
202 R60000 CARDINAL RED 19 (D,F,G) (Mrs F Walwyn) B De Haan 8-11-10 ... G Upton —
203 234-031 CHANCE COFFEY 1 (S) (P O'Donnell) P O'Donnell (Ire) 10-11-10 ... G M O'Neill 80
204 16-1111 CYBORGO 19 (CD,G,S) (County Stores Ltd) M Pipe 5-11-10 ... R Dunwoody 99
205 F-12211 DORANS PRIDE 25 (D,G,S) (T Doran) M Hourigan (Ire) 6-11-10 ... J P Broderick 85
206 240P-18 HALKOPOUS 110 (C,BF,F,G,S) (A Christodoulou) M Tompkins 9-11-10 ... J Osborne 87
207 1/2-2116 HEBRIDEAN 47 (D,BF,G,S) (P Deal) D Nicholson 8-11-10 ... W Marston 90
208 2/2614-4 SIMPSON 110 (D,F,G,S) (M Jarvis) J Old 10-11-10 ... T Grantham 85
209 012350 SPRING MARATHON 68 (C,S) (Mrs N Dutfield) Mrs P Dutfield 5-11-10 ... P Holley 62
210 5612-54 SWEET GLOW 47 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs M Fairbrother) M Pipe 8-11-10 ... J Lower 95
211 103421 HER HONOUR 36 (C,D,F,G,S) (Mrs A Farrant) M Pipe 6-11-5 ... C Swan 75
212 43133U WHAT A QUESTION 35 (G,S) (Mrs M Valentine) M Morris (Ire) 7-11-5 ... N Williamson 79

BETTING: 2-1 Cyborgo, 7-2 Dorans Pride, 9-2 Bokaro, 5-1 Hebridean, 10-1 Halkopous, 12-1 Simpson, 20-1 Her Honour, Sweet Glow, 33-1 others.

1994: BALASANI 8-11-10 M Perrett (9-2) M Pipe 14 ran

FORM FOCUS

BOKARO beat Pridwell 2½l in 3-runner conditions hurdle at Haydock (2m, heavy). CYBORGO, completed four-timer, beat Top Spin 15l in 5-runner grade II Rendlesham Limited Handicap Hurdle at Kempton (3m 110yd, heavy). DORANS PRIDE completed double, beat Time for A Run 5l in 5-runner grade II Boyne Hurdle at Punchestown (3m, heavy). Previously beat Danoli distance in the grade III Christmas Hurdle with WHAT A QUESTION (10lb worse off) distance 3rd.
HALKOPOUS beat Avro Anson 12l in the 7-runner grade II Tote West Yorkshire Hurdle at Wetherby (3m 1f, good) on penultimate start. HEBRIDEAN beat DORANS PRIDE 5l in the grade I Long Walk Hurdle at Ascot (3m 1f 110yd, good) on penultimate start, with WHAT A QUESTION 6l 3rd and CARDINAL RED distant 7th. Previously beat SPRING MARATHON 8l in the 6-runner grade II Aziz Nobel Long Distance Hurdle at Newbury (3m 110yd, good to soft) with SIMPSON 7½l 4th and HALKOPOUS poor 6th. SWEET GLOW 16½l 4th of 7 to Mudahim in grade I Cleeve Hurdle here (2m 5f 110yd, heavy) with HEBRIDEAN 22½l 6th. HER HONOUR beat Modahim 5l in 7-runner handicap hurdle at Ascot (3m, heavy).
Selection: HALKOPOUS

3.30 TOTE CHELTENHAM GOLD CUP CHASE C4
(Grade I: £122,540: 3m 2f 110yd) (17 runners)

RUNNERS AND RIDERS — SEE ABOVE

4.05 CHRISTIES FOXHUNTER CHASE CHALLENGE CUP C4
(Amateurs: £15,582: 3m 2f 110yd) (13 runners)

401 F11-23 CELTIC ABBEY 14 (F,G,S) (G Powell) Mrs C Hardinge 7-12-0 ... D S Jones 65
402 23/112-3 DAVY BLAKE 41 (BF,F,G,S) (T Dalgetty) T Dalgetty 8-12-0 ... J M Dun 74
403 11F-113 DOUBLE SILK 20 (CD,F,G,S) (R Wilkins) R Wilkins 11-12-0 ... R Treloggen 99
404 2/1111-2 ELEGANT LORD 18 (G,S) (J McManus) E Bolger (Ire) 7-12-0 ... A Martin 95
405 5/14-11 FAITHFUL STAR 11P (F,G,S) (M Pipe) M Pipe 10-12-0 ... D Pipe 79
406 1F2-11 FANTUS 26P (G,S) (J Keighley) R Barber 8-12-0 ... Miss P Curling 78
407 -2U2U HOLLAND HOUSE 16 (F,G,S) (E Knight) P Chamings 9-12-0 ... C Vigors —
408 1-211 QUALIFIED 19P (G,S) (Mrs L Boscawen) R Barber 12-12-0 ... Mrs L Boscawen —
409 5362-12 RIVER BOUNTY 22 (F,G,S) (Uplands Bloodstock) C Brooks 9-12-0 ... E James 88
410 1/111-21 ROYAL JESTER 19P (G,S) (Mrs A Wauchope) Mrs J Storey 11-12-0 ... C Storey 75
411 52P-22F RYDE AGAIN 9 (C,F,G,S) (Miss J Hayward) Miss C Saunders 12-12-0 ... T Marks 69
412 1132-12 SANDYBRAES 27 (F,G,S) (Mrs S Catherwood) D Nicholson 10-12-0 ... R Johnson 82
413 2121-12 TEAPLANTER 20 (CD,F,G,S) (R Russell) Miss C Saunders 12-12-0 ... R Russell 91

BETTING: 9-4 Double Silk, 11-4 Elegant Lord, 8-1 Teaplanter, River Bounty, 10-1 Fantus, Ryde Again, Sandybraes, 14-1 Davy Blake, 20-1 Celtic Abbey, Royal Jester, 25-1 others.

1994: DOUBLE SILK 10-12-0 R Treloggen (2-5 fav) R Wilkins 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

DOUBLE SILK, completed double, beat Kerry Hill distance in 6-runner hunter chase at Warwick (3m 2f, soft) penultimate start. ELEGANT LORD 1l 2nd of 18 to Loving Around in hunter chase at Fairyhouse (3m 1f, soft). Previously beat TEAPLANTER 4½l in 13-runner hunter chase at Punchestown (3m 1f, yielding). FAITHFUL STAR beat Cherryaut 8l in 5-runner confined at Milborne St Andrew (good to soft). FANTUS beat HOLLAND HOUSE 5l in 10-runner mixed open at Larkhill (good to soft). QUALIFIED beat Flame O'Frensi 6l in 7-runner ladies at Badbury Rings (good to soft). RIVER BOUNTY beat RYDE AGAIN (5lb better off) 3l in 8-runner hunter chase at Sandown (2m 4f 110yd, heavy) penultimate start. ROYAL JESTER 1½l 2nd of 10 to Miners Melody in hunter chase at Kelso (3m 1f, good to soft) penultimate start with DAVY BLAKE ½l 3rd. SANDYBRAES beat RYDE AGAIN 9l in an 11-runner hunter chase at Market Rasen (3m 6f 110yd, good to soft) on penultimate start. TEAPLANTER 25l 2nd of 4 to Cool Relation in hunter chase at Kempton (3m, heavy) with DOUBLE SILK (3lb better off) 20l 3rd.
Selection: DOUBLE SILK

4.40 123rd YEAR OF THE CHELTENHAM GRAND ANNUAL CHASE CHALLENGE CUP (£23,373: 2m 110yd) (9 runners)

501 5P/00-42 CYPHRATE 40 (D,G,S) (Alias Smith & Jones Racing) M Pipe 9-11-11 R Dunwoody 93
502 2-3P141 THUMBS UP 19 (D,F,S) (M Buckley) N Henderson 9-11-4 ... M A Fitzgerald 97
503 0-1111P SOUND REVEILLE 2 (D,G,S) (Mrs G Abecassis) C Brooks 7-10-10 ... G Bradley 93
504 1-13211 AROUND THE HORN 68 (D,G,S) (Redmires Partners) J Gifford 8-10-6 ... S McNeill 93
505 P-6U42F PARLIAMENT HALL 35 (F,S) (P Winfield) K Bailey 9-10-4 ... N Williamson 99
506 31F-511 BIG MATT 20 (G,S) (R Swan) N Henderson 7-10-0 ... C Swan 96
507 313211 AUBURN CASTLE 26 (D,F,S) (Rashleigh Arms) C Sherwood 8-10-0 ... J Osborne 90
508 12P424 DR ROCKET 34 (D,F,G,S) (The Rocketeers) R Dickin 10-10-0 ... D Meredith (3) 88
509 42-2322 MR FELIX 34 (D,F,G,S) (F Rosenfeld's Widow & Sons) R Champion 9-10-0 ... B Powell 80

Long handicap: Parliament Hall 9-12, Big Matt 9-12, Auburn Castle 9-10, Dr Rocket 9-10, Mr Felix 9-10

BETTING: 3-1 Thumbs Up, 7-2 Auburn Castle, 9-2 Around The Horn, 7-1 Cyphrate, 8-1 Big Matt, 10-1 Parliament Hall, 12-1 Sound Reveille, 20-1 others.

1994: SNITTON LANE 8-10-0 D Bridgwater (33-1) W Clay 17 ran

FORM FOCUS

CYPHRATE 1¼l 2nd of 5 to Uncle Ernie in handicap chase at Sandown (2m, soft) with THUMBS UP 7l 3rd. THUMBS UP beat Viking Flagship 7l in the 4-runner Emblem Chase at Kempton (2m, heavy). SOUND REVEILLE pulled up before 9th behind Klairon Davis in grade I Arkle Trophy here (2m, soft) on Tuesday. Previously completed four-timer, beat Northern Saddler 9l in 5-runner Huntingdon handicap chase (2m 110yd, soft). AROUND THE HORN, completed double, beat Spree Cross ¾l in 5-runner Sandown handicap chase (2m, good to soft) with CYPHRATE (3lb better off) 3¾l 4th. PARLIAMENT HALL 3l in lead when fell last in 7-runner grade II PZ Mower Chase at Thurles (2m 4f, heavy). BIG MATT, completed double, beat Lackendara ½l in Kempton 4-runner handicap chase (2m 4f 110yd, heavy). AUBURN CASTLE, completed double, beat Truth 1½l in 7-runner Nottingham novice chase (2m, good to soft).
Selection: AROUND THE HORN

5.15 CATHCART CHALLENGE CUP CHASE
(£29,553: 2m 5f) (11 runners)

601 P-11P32 COULTON 36 (F,G,S) (M St Quinton) O Sherwood 8-11-7 ... J Osborne 99
602 42-1111 ALL THE ACES 25 (D,G,S) (J McManus) A Moore (Ire) 8-11-3 ... F Woods 83
603 431614 BART OWEN 63 (G,S) (Mrs S McCarthy) P Mullins (Ire) 10-11-3 ... P Carberry 76
604 111R21 LUSTY LIGHT 63 (CD,F,G,S) (B Burrough) Mrs J Pitman 9-11-3 ... W Marston 90
605 6-112U1 DARK OAK 38 (G,S) (Mrs M Curtis) J Curtis 9-11-0 ... L O'Hara 65
606 12U502 GALLATEEN 15 (B,F,G,S) (E Madden) G Richards 7-11-0 ... A Dobbin 81
607 2311F3 MASTER BOSTON 19 (CD,G,S) (M Oldham) R Woodhouse 7-11-0 D Gallagher 65
608 F322U2 SOUTHOLT 19 (F,G,S) (G Hubbard) G Hubbard 7-11-0 ... Richard Guest 95
609 213F40 TUG OF PEACE 19 (G,S) (P Richardson) G Balding 8-11-0 ... A P McCoy 55
610 12/11F-1 GAELSTROM 15 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs J Powell) N Twiston-Davies 8-10-12 D Bridgwater 92
611 3-12021 SULLANE RIVER 46 (G,S) (S Lucey) D McGrath (Ire) 7-10-12 ... M Dwyer 93

BETTING: 9-4 Gaelstrom, 4-1 All The Aces, 5-1 Coulton, Southolt, 8-1 Lusty Light, 10-1 Sullane River, 20-1 Gallateen, 25-1 others.

1994: RAYMYLETTE 7-11-0 M A Fitzgerald (7-4 fav) N Henderson 4 ran

FORM FOCUS

COULTON 7l 2nd of 6 to Martha's Son in grade I Comet Chase at Ascot (2m 3f 110yd, soft) with SOUTHOLT (7lb better off) in touch when unseated rider 8th. ALL THE ACES completed four-timer, beat Kings English 2l in 9-runner handicap chase at Punchestown (2m, heavy). BART OWEN beat Caliimecha ½l in 6-runner conditions chase at Tramore (2m 6f, heavy) penultimate start. LUSTY LIGHT, left in clear lead at last, beat Bradbury Star distance in 5-runner conditions chase at Wincanton (2m 5f, good). DARK OAK beat Sprowston Boy 5l in 5-runner handicap chase at Market Rasen (2m 4f, good to soft). MASTER BOSTON 19l 3rd of 16 to Tallot in novice chase at Doncaster (3m, good). SOUTHOLT 20l 2nd of 9 to Val D'Alene in grade III Racing Post Chase at Kempton (3m, heavy). GAELSTROM beat GALLATEEN (6lb worse off) ½l in 4-runner handicap chase at Wetherby (2m 4f 110yd, soft). SULLANE RIVER beat Belmont King 2l in the 8-runner grade II Pierse Handicap Chase at Fairyhouse (3m, heavy).
Selection: GAELSTROM

5.50 VINCENT O'BRIEN COUNTY HANDICAP HURDLE
(Grade III: £23,000: 2m 1f) (23 runners)

1 203P-08 KILCASH 80 (B,G,S) (J Whelan) P Hedger 7-11-10 ... G Bradley 94
2 10-2132 PRIDWELL 20 (CD,F,G,S) (M Jones) M Pipe 5-11-8 ... R Dunwoody 94
3 0F6-512 ARABIAN BOLD 26 (F,G,S) (Shaikh Amin Dahlawi) N Henderson 7-11-4 J R Kavanagh 92
4 0-15626 KHARASAR 39 (D,G,S) (W Hennessy) A Mullins (Ire) 5-11-3 R A Hennessy (5) 94
5 051223 HOME COUNTIES 26 (D,G,S) (Roxy Cinemas) D Moffat 6-11-1 D J Moffat (3) 98
6 131/500 FINAL RUN 16 (G) (M O'Connor) D Hughes (Ire) 8-10-13 ... R Hughes —
7 12-2211 BLAST FREEZE 19 (D,G,S) (Pioneer Treatment) N Henderson 6-10-13 M A Fitzgerald 92
8 6-32203 DIPLOMATIC 11 (S) (Mrs J Keeling) M O'Toole (Ire) 6-10-9 ... C Swan 91
9 1020-35 FAMILY WAY 61 (G) (J McManus) A Moore (Ire) 8-10-8 ... F Woods 93
10 1-61511 SQUIRE SILK 26 (D,G,S) (R Ogden) A Turnell 6-10-8 ... S McNeill 90
11 P/6323 SALWAN 20 (G,S) (P Douglas Eng) Mrs J Pitman 7-10-6 ... W Marston 96
12 223-110 PALACEGATE KING 59 (D,S) (C Whildans) A Whillans 6-10-5 ... B Harding (5) 94
13 42P4P-0 KIVETON TYCOON 19 (G,S) (K H (Equine) Ltd) J Glover 6-10-0 ... A S Smith 97
14 14134 GREAT MARQUESS 36 (BF,S) N Twiston-Davies 8-10-0 ... C Llewellyn 99
15 14R533 DARING PAST 40 (G,S) (J Petty) M Hammond 5-10-0 ... A Dobbin 90
16 203220 KEEP ME IN MIND 35 (S) (P Tory) N Mitchell 6-10-0 ... D Skyrme 92
17 310-042 NEMURO 7 (G) (Turf City Racing) D Elsworth 7-10-0 ... P Holley 97
18 42F411 BRAMBLEBERRY 12 (G,S) (Hampers Racing) Mrs S Smith 6-10-0 Richard Guest 93
19 1-52150 VASILIEV 86 (B,F,S) (R Houlton) S Gollings 7-10-0 ... D Bridgwater 94
20 6/11125 INCHCAILLOCH 19 (D,G,S) (F Carter) J King 6-10-0 ... N Williamson 83
21 584214 ZEALOUS KITTEN 7 (G,S) (M Oseman) R Price 7-10-0 ... A P McCoy 79
22 5-14130 DAMIER BLANC 49 (S) (T Painting) M Pipe 6-10-0 ... J Osborne 81
23 643101 TEST MATCH 5 (G,S) (R Oulton) W Clay 8-10-0 ... Diane Clay 83

Long handicap: Great Marquess 9-12, Daring Past 9-12, Keep Me In Mind 9-12, Nemuro 9-10, Brambleberry 9-10, Vasiliev 9-9, Inchcailloch 9-7, Zealous Kitten 9-3, Damier Blanc 9-1, Test Match 8-6

BETTING: 8-1 Family Way, 9-1 Blast Freeze, 10-1 Diplomatic, Squire Silk, 12-1 Nemuro, Pridwell, Kharasar, Great Marquess, 14-1 Home Counties, Brambleberry, Salwan, 16-1 Arabian Bold, Palacegate King, 20-1 others.

1994: DIZZY 6-10-0 A Dobbin (12-1) P Monteith 24 ran

FORM FOCUS

PRIDWELL, boasts good record on this course, 2½l 2nd of 3 to Bokaro in conditions hurdle at Haydock (2m, heavy) with SALWAN (12lb better off) 10l 3rd. ARABIAN BOLD 14l 2nd of 4 to Large Action in limited handicap hurdle at Nottingham (2m, good to soft). KHARASAR 2½l 2nd of 12 to Manhattan Castle in handicap hurdle at Leopardstown (2m, heavy) with FINAL RUN (5lb better off) over 4l 7th. HOME COUNTIES 5l 3rd of 19 to Chief Minister in handicap hurdle at Newcastle (2m 4f, good to soft).
BLAST FREEZE, completed double, beat Top Cees short-head in 10-runner handicap hurdle at Doncaster (2m 110yd, good) with INCHCAILLOCH 12l 5th and KIVETON TYCOON (9lb better off) 18l 8th. DIPLOMATIC 1½l and head 3rd of 14 to Punters Bar in handicap hurdle at Leopardstown (2m, heavy). SQUIRE SILK completed double, beat Blackpatch Hill 1¼l in 5-runner handicap hurdle at Windsor (2m, heavy). PALACEGATE KING completed double on penultimate start, beat Kadastrof 2l in 6-runner handicap hurdle, with SALWAN (9lb better off) distant 6th.
GREAT MARQUESS 9½l 4th of 12 to Supreme Master in conditions hurdle at Ascot (2m 110yd, heavy). NEMURO 4l 2nd of 12 to Jurz in handicap hurdle at Wincanton (2m, soft). BRAMBLEBERRY completed double, dead-heated with Mr Confusion in 12-runner handicap hurdle at Doncaster (2m 110yd, good).
VASILIEV faded closing stages when 17l 5th to Master Boston in Warwick handicap (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft) penultimate start. ZEALOUS KITTEN strong run to beat Statajack head in Sandown handicap (2m, heavy) penultimate start.
Selection: BLAST FREEZE

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
N Henderson	6	41	14.6	C Swan	7	43	16.3
N Twiston-Davies	4	29	13.8	J Osborne	8	50	16.0
D Nicholson	5	52	9.6	C Llewellyn	3	23	13.0
J Gifford	3	42	7.1	R Dunwoody	4	43	9.3
M Pipe	7	119	5.9	M Dwyer	3	34	8.8

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Large Action eyes Aintree

LARGE ACTION could be sent over fences next season after one more run over hurdles this term. The Champion Hurdle second, to Alderbrook, is likely to run next at either Aintree or Ayr.

"Large Action is fine," Oliver Sherwood, his trainer, said. "As long as he continues to be, he will go to Aintree. If that was too soon, we would go for the Scottish Champion Hurdle.

Brave Tornado to power home

FESTIVAL GUIDE

2.15: Balanak looked highly impressive when maintaining his unbeaten record at Kempton, quickening in style. The David Gandolfo-trained favourite has an obvious chance but hardly represents value. Silver Wedge definitely has his own views on the game and blinkers are applied today in an attempt to persuade him to put his best foot forward.

Uncle Doug and Stompin are progressive but I am looking for a big run from **Brave Tornado**. Stoutly bred but not short of speed, Toby Balding's runner should relish a fast-run race and the stiff finish. He powered home here in January, when beating Clifton Beat, and has good each-way prospects. Majestic Man looks best of the Irish challengers.



Balding: Triumph hope

2.50: This is the best Stayers Hurdle for years, with three horses standing out. The front-running Cyborgo is one of Martin Pipe's bankers for the meeting. Unbeaten in four starts this term, the French-bred five-year-old must have soft ground to be at his best.

Hebridean pulled muscles in his hind quarters when disappointing here in the Cleeve Hurdle in January, but previously won at Ascot when Dorans Pride was five lengths second. David Nicholson has his runner back in top form and the mud-lover is strongly fancied. However, the vibes from Ireland concerning **Dorans Pride** are strong and, for many, Michael Hourigan's horse is the bet of the meeting. There were genuine excuses for his Ascot defeat, including a bad journey from Ireland. Since then he has thrived, winning his last two races in style.

3.30: see above.

4.05: **Elegant Lord** beat Teaplanter in good style at Punchestown last April in a valuable hunter chase and a repeat here looks on the cards. The seven-year-old was an encouraging length second at Fairyhouse on his seasonal reappearance when giving away a lot of weight. He should be all the sharper for that outing and looks a sound bet. Aside from Teaplanter, Sandybraes looks the best of the British-trained runners.

4.40: Auburn Castle has had an almost identical preparation to Aldino, who won this race as a lightly-raced novice for Oliver Sherwood in 1991. Quietly fancied for the Arkle, the Sherwood team has opted for this race where the excellent jumper looks well treated. This is very competitive, with Around The Horn, Cyphrate and Big Matt having sound prospects. I marginally prefer **Thumbs Up**, who won the County Hurdle here two season ago and beat Viking Flagship at Kempton last time. However, stakes should be kept to a minimum.

5.15: **Gaelstrom** looks an outstanding bet. Winner of the Sun Alliance Hurdle two years ago, she took well to fences last season and was hacking up from the talented See More Indians when falling and suffering a hairline fracture of a hind leg. On her first racecourse appearance since, at Wetherby 15 days ago, she looked better than ever when trotting up. The main danger is All The Aces, unbeaten in four starts this season, and trained by the in-form Arthur Moore.

5.50: If you are trying to "get out" on this race, good luck. The Andy Turnell-trained Squire Silk looks temptingly weighted, having bounced back to form in his last two runs, but with several front-runners in the race, the pace is likely to be strong and could suit **Diplomatic**. Second in this race last year, Mick O'Toole's six-year-old has been running consistently and Charlie Swan is an eye-catching booking.

RICHARD EVANS

مكتبة الامل

Shadow cast over celebration

Julian Muscat finds an emotional David Nicholson after his Champion Chase win


IAN STEWART

Viking Flagship, nearside, heads Nakir on his way to a second Queen Mother Champion Chase victory yesterday

THIS was never going to be a Cheltenham to celebrate. The death at the weekend, of Phyllis Maguire, mother of Adrian, has weighed heavily on the occasion. And the emotion spilled over yesterday when David Nicholson landed the Queen Mother Champion Chase with Viking Flagship for the second year running.

The purists marvelled at Viking Flagship's athleticism. Nicholson, as is his wont, accompanied his jockey on the short journey to the weighing room.

Charlie Swan, not Maguire, was at Nicholson's side. Maguire is in mourning and will not ride at the Festival. Minutes later, Nicholson emerged from the weighing room. He was in tears.

Under these circumstances, he is not at his best. This has been a turbulent season, dominated for him by events both on and off the track. He is not one to show the strain, but the tragedy surrounding Maguire was all too much. "I just feel very emotional that Adrian isn't here riding," a shaken Nicholson said.

"He's done all the hard work. He's looked after the horse in the last two years and in the moment of glory he couldn't ride him. I feel fearfully sorry for him." Nicholson's sentiments were later echoed by Swan, who struggled to contain himself amid the excitement generated by Viking Flagship's victory.

"I've known Adrian for years and I knew his mother," said the Irish champion, who had mixed feelings about taking the ride. "If you think about it, it's enough to make you cry. But it is my job. If I didn't ride the horse then someone else would have." The wake for Phyllis Maguire, which started in Co Meath, had stretched all the way to Cheltenham.

No jockey could have deputised with the same aplomb as did Swan. If Viking Flagship approached the race under something of a cloud, you would not have guessed it. Swan rode with a controlled aggression behind the front-running Egypt Mill Prince. In response, the little horse attacked his fences with the vigour of old.

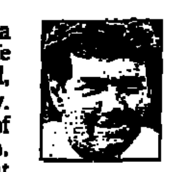
Viking Flagship made a formidable sight as he swept ahead at the penultimate fence. But Deep Sensation was right on his heels, travelling with a familiar ease. It was long odds against him retrieving the deficit. He has never before had Viking Flagship's heart, and he wasn't about to develop it now. Another mighty leap at the last set the seal on a majestic triumph.

"I have never been faster over the last in my life," Swan said of his first victory over the Cheltenham fences. "As a jockey, the best moment you ever get is a winner here. But winning a big race is special."

Had Maguire contemplated it from his home, he would have craved success for the Nicholson yard. Yet Viking Flagship's show of strength was only part of the story. Nicholson landed the opening event, the Sun Alliance Novices' Hurdle, with the 7-1 chance Putty Road, who, powerfully assisted by Norman Williamson, forced his head in front on the line to deny the Oliver Sherwood-trained Berude Not To after a memorable duel.

It was Williamson again who later hoisted a Nicholson treble when Kadi proved too strong for Dublin Flyer in the Mildmay Of Flete Chase. At times, this can be a cruel game.

Ultimate test of nerve that can mean make or break



Andrew Longmore on the fence at Cheltenham which epitomises the drama of jumping at its best

It is not distinguished by a name nor, from the safe side of the running rail, by any identifiable difficulty. Just a plain fence, made of birch, standing about 4ft 6in, ominous only for the bright white-on-red number 13 beside it. But, inside the hallowed walls of the weighing-room and the minds of one or two tender chasers, the third-last fence on the Old Course at Cheltenham is considered to be one of the ultimate tests of nerve, a fence which sieves out the boys and brands the champions, where a miraculous leap can bring a tired horse back into contention and a mistake can end all hopes.

Twelve months ago, the electric *Remittance Man* fell for the first time in his young life there, suffering the same fate as Coonawara the previous day. The flip-side comes when a trio of chasers turn down the hill at the far end of the course, take a deep breath and plunge like bobsleighs down the hill, meeting the fence halfway. There are few more breathtaking sights in racing but, sadly, the thrill has to be seen second-hand. Nobody is allowed into the centre of the course.

Yesterday, with the sun and a chill wind drying out the ground all the time, the fence proved more benign. Banjo, under Richard Dunwoody, clipped the top on the first circuit of the Sun Alliance Chase, but recovered quickly enough. The field of amateur riders treated it with due respect, preferring safety to sorrow. Only Easy Buck met it absolutely wrong, tipping Chris Maude out of the side door in the closing stages of the Mildmay of Flete.

"On top-class horses, you're going maybe 25 or 30 miles an hour into the fence," Brendan Powell, an old hand at Cheltenham, said. "It's probably the fastest moment in the race and, as soon as you start down the hill, the race is beginning in earnest. You can win or lose it right there. If you jump it 200 times, you might get it just right about 20. The rest you sit tight and hope."

Every jockey has a memory of a painful encounter with the third-last. Steve Smith Eccles recalls a crashing fall from Green Bramble ten years ago. He split a lip and had to accept his Ritz Club Trophy for top jockey the following day in uncharacteristic silence.

"He was going to win, too," Smith Eccles said. "I've seen a lot of so-called good jumpers get caught there. I always preferred to get close to it and fiddle a horse over it rather than try to stand off and ping it. It's a trappy little fence." As Powell, too, will testify.

The details of his fall from Coonawara, which offer a real insight into the pressures of top class race-riding, are still neon-bright 12 months on. "We'd led most of the way, because he's a big, bold jumper and he had been standing off from most of his fences.

"Coming down the hill, I could see and hear horses coming to me and I was thinking: 'I must get this spot-on.' So I gave him a quick squeeze. But, instead of getting it right, he put down with his front legs, the back-end caught up with the front and his momentum just took him into the fence. With hindsight, I should have let him pop over it himself." Much as Dublin Flyer, partnered by Powell, did yesterday on their way to a hard-fought second place in the Mildmay of Flete for the second successive year.

By common consent, the levelling out of the landing side, after the deaths of Buckfast Abbey and Alaoui on Mackeson Gold Cup day in 1990, has made the fence fairer and safer. Before, the ground sloped away so steeply that a jump only fractionally too big could end in disaster. "It used to catch horses out, even if they had jumped it well," Richard Dunwoody said. "I've been down on my belly a few times there but it's a lot better to jump now."

The old-timers believe that, like Becher's Brook, the danger and the challenge has been anaesthetised by the modifications. Either way, it is still a fence Brendan Powell enjoys having behind him.

"You look forward to jumping it, but once you're over it, you feel good. And if you get it absolutely right, it's brilliant." He has a picture on his wall at home, of him and Dublin Flyer doing just that last year.



Powell: old hand

Brief Gale dents Irish pride

By Julian Muscat

"APPROACHING the next and it's Banjo with Harcon, who has now drawn level . . " Irish voices reached a crescendo as the racecourse commentator charted Harcon's progress at the fifteenth fence in the Sun Alliance Chase at Cheltenham yesterday.

It was not to be. No sooner had Harcon broken Banjo's spirit than Brief Gale loomed up with menace in her stride. Twelve months ago Brief Gale gave vain chase to Danoli but she would not be denied a second time by Irish expectation, even one in the physically intimidating form of Harcon.

Brief Gale's victory was celebrated in the knowledge that mares of her quality are a rare breed. Her trainer, Josh Gifford, has long heralded Brief Gale as the best mare he has trained. Now we know why. "She was always cantering behind the big two," Gifford observed. "She's been wrong all season but we got her right for today. She's bound to improve, this was only her fourth race over fences."

The drying ground probably influenced Harcon's defeat, although Jim Dreaper, who trains the chestnut giant, offered no excuses. "That was the first time he has been extended in a chase but he jumped well. I think no less of him for having been beaten."

Harcon's eclipse will have hurt Irish wallets. There was some respite when Chance Coffey came home ahead of two compatriots in the Coral Cup, but the concluding Prestige Medical Festival Bumper, an Irish preserve since its first running four years ago, saw them sustain another reverse when Dato Star, trained by Malcolm Jefferson in Yorkshire, proved too strong.

Nor will Henry Cleary, the Irish amateur, reflect fondly on the ride he gave Lacken Cross in the National Hunt Chase. He was banned for ten days for a ruthless display with his whip. Lacken Cross finished third but the race was won with complete authority by Front Line.

Williamson proves a hard man to beat

By Jamie Osborne

I AM starting to dislike Norman Williamson. On Tuesday he deprived me of the Champion Hurdle and yesterday he rode Putty Road to beat Berude Not To by just a head in the Sun Alliance Novices Hurdle.

Both horses performed with great resolution and it was a great shame there had to be a loser — especially as it was me. Berude Not To had raced off the bridle for quite some way but I felt sure we would hold the eventual winner until 50 yards from the line, where Putty Road dug deep and found a little extra.

Nakir ran with great credit in the Queen Mother Champion Chase, finishing third behind two former winners, Viking Flagship and Deep Sensation. He was never able to travel hard on the bridle because of the soft going and his form will improve when he races on better ground.

Red Blazer ran up to his *Ascot form but unfortunately* we came up against a serious performer in Dato Star. As I have said before, seconds are frustrating but one has to be pleased when the horses run well.

I have six rides today and once again I'm very hopeful there can be a winner among them. Stompin is my ride in the Daily Express Triumph Hurdle. He lacks experience over hurdles but he certainly has an above average engine and races with great enthusiasm. Halkapous has an outstanding chance in the Stayers Hurdle. Admittedly, his best form is on faster ground, but he is the class horse of the race.

The major race of the week is the Tote Cheltenham Gold Cup where I ride Flashing Steel. He is a big price but I do not think this reflects his chance. He seems to be coming back to his best form at the right time.

Coulton runs in the Cathcart having sidestepped yesterday's Queen Mother Champion Chase. The conditions of this race suit him extremely well. If it were a handicap he would be giving more weight to the other runners. His form this year has been very solid. He finished runner-up to Martha's Son in the Comet Chase at Ascot over today's trip.

Auburn Castle appears to be well handicapped in the Grand Annual Handicap Chase. Oliver Sherwood won this race with Aldino in 1991 and this horse has very similar credentials. We are very hopeful that he can continue his unbeaten run over fences.

My day is completed by Martin Pipe's Damier Blanc in the County Hurdle. I have never ridden this horse before and his chance on the form book does not look obvious. But if you're not in, you cannot win.

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER
1.40 Spencer's Revenge. 2.10 Don't Drop Bombs. 2.40 Power. 3.10 Samson-Agonistes. 3.45 Gulf Shaadi. 4.15 Kintwyn. 4.45 Nordico Princess. 5.15 Indian Serenade.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.40 Power. 5.15 BOLD HABIT (nap).

GOING: STANDARD SIS
DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

1.40 MOSQUITO CLAIMING STAKES
(Div I: £3,067: 7f) (9 runners)
1 (3) 2115 PERILOUS PLIGHT 12 (CD,F,G) W Muir 4-9-12 J Weaver 92
2 (7) 000- ARAGROVE 143 (C,F,G) J Payne 5-9-8 G Bardwell 70
3 (5) -534 MR NEVERMIND 12 (CD,F,G) G L Moore 5-9-8 B Rouse [illegible]
4 (6) 1112 SPENCER'S REVENGE 16 (CD,G) Lord Huntingdon 6-9-7 L Dettori 95
5 (4) 5360 APOLLO RED 8 (V,CD,G,S) A Moore 6-9-4 Candy Morris 72
6 (1) -563 GREATEST 16 (CD,F) R Akehurst 4-9-3 G Carter 90
7 (8) 0032 BRECKLAND 21 (B) K Cunningham-Brown 5-9-2 T Ives 83
8 (2) 41-0 SLYTLY BEVELED 17 (CD,G) N Littmoden 3-8-4 T G McLaughlin (5) 79
9 (9) 2350 SANDRA DEE 12 B Pearce 3-8-0 S Sanders (3) 82
6-4 Spencer's Revenge, 11-4 Mr Nevermind, 7-2 Greatest, 7-1 others.

2.10 WELLINGTON AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP
(Div I: £2,726: 1m) (11)
1 (4) 6024 ZAHRAN 12 (F) J Bradley 4-11-7 T Cuff 93
2 (9) 6003 GREEN'S BID 8 (G) D Chapman 5-11-5 Miss R Clark (5) 95
3 (6) 2043 RESPECTABLE JONES 33 (CD,F,G,S) R Hollinshead 9-10-13 Miss J Southall (5) 96
4 (5) 5600 ROSINA'S FOLLY 31 J L Harris 4-10-11 I McLelland (5) 88
5 (2) 1454 DOME PATROL 19 (CD,BF,G) W Muir 4-10-11 Miss S Dalton (7) 98
6 (5) 00-0 KENTAVRUS WAY 49 (C,G) A Moore 4-10-9 Mrs J Moore (7) 94
7 (1) -545 SHERBLU 14 J Pitch-Hayes 4-10-6 T McCarthy (3) 98
8 (7) 00-0 STORM BIDDER 54 (V) B Gubby 4-10-5 Mrs M Busby (5) 88
9 (8) 5152 DON'T DROP BOMBS 28 (V,C,D,BF,G) D Thom 6-9-13 Miss J Feilden [illegible]
10 (11) /0 ASAAF 38 (B) N Littmoden 12-9-8 M Salaman (7) –
11 (10) 0-00 CHRISTIAN SPIRIT 35 (CD,G) B Pearce 5-9-6 R Blyth (7) –
4-1 Respectable Jones, 9-2 Green's Bid, 5-1 Zahran, Don't Drop Bombs, 6-1 others.

2.40 MK ELECTRIC HANDICAP
(£3,691: 1m 4f) (14)
1 (6) 0020 ONE OFF THE RAIL 8 (CD,G) A Moore 5-10-0 L Suthern (7) 91
2 (10) 1236 PRINCE DANZIG 8 (CD,F,G) D Murray Smith 4-9-12 J Weaver 88
3 (14) 6-12 POWER 13 (CD,G) C Brittain 4-9-11 M Rimmer 89
4 (1) 00-0 ABLE CHOICE 23 (CD,G) R Armstrong 5-9-7 L Dettori 86
5 (7) 1-16 BEAUTETE 61 (C,BF,F,G) S Dow 4-9-5 D Harrison 89
6 (5) 3466 GLOBAL DANCER 23 (C,G) W O'Gorman 4-9-4 Emma O'Gorman (3) 98
7 (8) -423 IKHTIRAA 23 (C,D,BF,G,S) R O'Sullivan 5-8-13 W Woods 95
8 (3) 2431 IN THE MONEY 15 (D,F,G) R Hollinshead 6-8-11 W Ryan 96
9 (2) 60-3 DANCING SENSATION 16 (E,C,D,F,S) R Akehurst 8-8-1 S Sanders (3) [illegible]
10 (12) 0232 LON ISA 21 B Palling 4-7-13 N Carlisle 96
11 (13) 46-0 TELEPHUS 23 (CD,F,G) B McMath 6-7-10 Martin Dwyer (7) 97
12 (11) 0445 BANDITA 15 Miss A Whitfield 4-7-8 J Quinn 95
13 (9) 6-43 GENERAL CHASE 16 (F,G) I Campbell 5-7-7 G Bardwell 95
14 (4) 50-0 KINGSFOLD FOUNTAIN 19 M Haynes 4-7-7 N Adams 93
9-2 Dancing Sensation, 5-1 In The Money, 6-1 Power, 8-1 others.

3.10 LANCASTER CLAIMING STAKES
(£2,839: 6f) (14)
1 (9) FATHER TIM 147J J Bradley 5-9-12 S Drowne (5) –
2 (3) -323 ROCKY WATERS 20 (CD,F,G) G L Moore 6-9-9 B Rouse 86
3 (12) 2-10 SILENT EXPRESSION 12 (CD,F,G) B Meehan 5-9-7 T Quinn [illegible]
4 (14) 0515 SIR TASKER 19 (CD,F,G) J L Harris 7-9-6 S Sanders (3) 86
5 (10) 560- PEARL DAWN 161 (D,G) N Chance (Ire) 5-9-3 T Ives 87
6 (6) 2005 SAMSON-AGONISTES 12 (C,D,F,G,S) P Evans 9-9-2 L Dettori 79
7 (2) 00-4 ASSIGNMENT 12 (CD,F,G) J Pitch-Hayes 9-8-12 D Biggs 70
8 (5) -005 BOLD CYRANO 16 B Palling 4-8-12 J Weaver 55
9 (4) 2060 WAVERLEY STAR 17 (B,D,F,G,S) K Cunningham-Brown 10-8-12 G Carter 66
10 (11) -513 DARK SHOT 15 (C,G) J Berry 3-8-10 J Carroll 86
11 (7) 605- FLUTTER WITH LIFE 171 Mrs A Jermy 4-8-10 J Williams –
12 (1) -000 TWICE IN BUNDORAN 31 (G) P Felgate 4-8-9 P McCabe (5) 61
13 (13) 3015 ROBO MAGIC 25 (CD,BF,G) A Moore 3-8-6 J Quinn 88
14 (8) 0 EL TAURUS 17 K Wingrove 3-8-0 M Baird (5) –
4-1 Silent Expression, 5-1 Dark Shot, 6-1 Sir Tasker, 7-1 others.

3.45 MOSQUITO CLAIMING STAKES
(Div II: £3,053: 7f) (9)
1 (9) 5211 SWEET SUPPOSIN 16 (B,CD,G) K McAuliffe 4-9-9 J Tate (3) 95
2 (8) 1423 CRYSTAL HEIGHTS 16 (C,D,G) R O'Sullivan 7-9-5 W Woods 80
3 (3) 0-40 PRIMA SILK 15 (F) M Ryan 4-9-5 D Biggs 91
4 (7) 008- SOAKING 75 (CD,F,G) G L Moore 5-9-5 B Rouse 83
5 (4) 000- MARJORIE'S ORCHID 234 M Heaton-Ellis 4-9-3 Stephen Davies 57
6 (1) 1331 GULF SHAADI 12 (CD,G) E Lewis 3-8-10 S Whitworth [illegible]
7 (5) 3366 JOINT EFFORT 8 A Moore 4-8-9 S Sanders (3) 75
8 (6) 510- NOOR EL HOUDAH 152 (C,D,F,S) J Berry 3-8-3 J Carroll 81
9 (2) 0460 HAVANA MISS 17 (S) B Palling 3-7-7 N Carlisle 69
9-4 Gulf Shaadi, 7-2 Sweet Supposin, Prima Silk, 4-1 Crystal Heights, 7-1 others.

4.15 BEAUFORT HANDICAP (£3,674: 1m 2f) (14)
1 (3) 0-11 KINTWYN 15 (C,G) C Elsey 5-9-11 D Harrison 87
2 (11) 3416 BENTICO 15 (D,F,G) Mrs N Macauley 6-9-10 J Weaver 91
3 (8) -232 AWESOME POWER 23 (CD,BF,G) J Hills 9-9-6 M Henry (7) 90
4 (12) 1-00 MASTER BEVELED 15 (C,F,G,S) P Evans 5-9-6 J Stack (5) [illegible]
5 (13) -601 ROMAN REEL 23 (CD,F,G) G L Moore 4-8-11 B Rouse 94
6 (14) /4 IRISH EMERALD 12 (D,S) G Bravery 8-8-10 S Whitworth –
7 (10) 3530 BRAVEBOY 24 (S) C Brittain 7-8-9 M Rimmer 90
8 (1) 0-64 LADY WILLIAMS 14 (C,F,G) Lord Huntingdon 4-8-8 L Dettori 94
9 (2) 5014 CAMDEN'S RANSOM 24 (CD,F,G) H Rowsell 8-8-5 B Doyle 91
10 (6) -135 ZUNO NOELYN 23 (CD,F,G) R Akehurst 4-8-3 G Carter 91
11 (7) 2432 CAPTAIN MARMALADE 16 (CD,G) D Thom 6-8-0 J Quinn 88
12 (4) 5-02 LADY REEMA 16 Miss A Whitfield 4-7-13 C Adamson (7) 85
13 (5) 005- EBONY BLAZE 86 C Wildman 4-7-10 Stephen Davies 88
14 (9) 0013 POSSIBILITY 14 (B,C,F,G) R Ingram 4-7-7 N Carlisle 89
9-2 Kintwyn, 6-1 Bentico, Awesome Power, Roman Reel, 8-1 others.

4.45 STIRLING HANDICAP (£3,053: 5f) (10)
1 (1) 4361 FARFELU 12 (B,CD,F,G) W Muir 8-10-0 D Holland 97
2 (2) 06-6 AFRICAN CHIMES 47 (B,CD,BF,F,G) W O'Gorman 8-9-13 Emma O'Gorman (3) 90
3 (3) -152 NORDICO PRINCESS 14 (CD,G,S) G Oldroyd 4-9-12 L Dettori 87
4 (5) 4-00 ROSSINI BLUE 15 A Bailey 4-9-11 V Halliday (5) 90
5 (6) 4331 SHADOW JURY 31 (B,D,F,G,S) D Chapman 5-9-1 Dean McKeown 92
6 (7) 2202 DISTANT DYNASTY 35 (CD,G,S) B Pearce 5-9-0 S Sanders (3) 96
7 (4) -226 THE INSTITUTE BOY 8 (CD,G) Miss J Craze 5-8-11 J McLaughlin [illegible]
8 (8) 1332 DOLLY FACE 19 (CD,F,G) W Muir 3-8-11 J Weaver 95
9 (9) 566- LINCSTONE BOY 306 (D,B,F,G,S) Miss J Craze 7-8-9 S Webster 89
10 (10) 0-04 BATON BLEU 38 P Howling 4-8-1 J Quinn 90
5-2 Shadow Jury, 4-1 African Chimes, 6-1 Nordico Princess, Farfelu, Distant Dynasty, Baton Bleu, 10-1 others.

5.15 WELLINGTON AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP
(Div II: £2,726: 1m) (11)
1 (3) 60-0 DAHIYAH 43 (V) G L Moore 4-11-7 K Goble (5) 83
2 (4) 52-2 BOLD HABIT 37 (C,F,G) J Pearce 10-11-3 Mrs L Pearce 89
3 (11) 60-6 SMART TEACHER 16 (D,F) K Burke 5-10-13 Mrs E Burke (7) 84
4 (8) 3422 INDIAN SERENADE 14 P Harris 4-10-12 Miss A Elsey (3) 92
5 (10) 4553 ROYAL ACCLAIM 12 (V,C,D,F,G,S) J Bradley 10-10-10 Mrs D McHale (5) 89
6 (3) 226- CHLOES DIAMOND 211J (F) A James 7-10-2 Miss S Higgins (5) 88
7 (7) 6052 ARROGANT BOY 12 D Chapman 6-9-12 Miss R Clark (5) 94
8 (1) 0-01 BRIGADORE GOLD 12 (B,G) A Bailey 5-9-11 Miss Bridget Gatehouse (5) 88
9 (6) 400- AIR COMMAND 160 (D,G,S) C Nash 5-9-11 P Phillips (5) [illegible]
10 (5) 5002 PAIR OF JACKS 14 (G) D Wilson 5-9-9 T Cuff 85
11 (9) 0000 SCOTS LAW 26 (B,CD,F,G) J Long 8-9-4 T Waters (7) –
9-2 Bold Habit, 5-1 Indian Serenade, Royal Acclaim, Brigadore Gold, 6-1 Pair Of Jacks, Chloes Diamond, 7-1 Arrogant Boy, 10-1 others.

LINGFIELD SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: P Harris, 7 winners from 25 runners, 28.0%, G Bravery, 5 from 18, 27.8%; K McAuliffe, 7 from 30, 23.3%; J Berry, 20 from 89, 22.5%; Lord Huntingdon, 31 from 142, 21.8%, G Lewis, 10 from 48, 20.8%; C Brittain, 22 from 110, 20.0%.

JOCKEYS: Mr T Cuff, 5 winners from 12 rides, 41.7%; Miss J Feilden, 3 from 9, 33.3%; L Dettori, 55 from 216, 25.5%; L Suthern, 5 from 21, 23.8%; J Weaver, 42 from 181, 23.2%; Emma O'Gorman, 39 from 177, 22.0%.

HEXHAM

THUNDERER
2.00 Pariah. 2.35 Mister Muddypaws. 3.15 Another Dyer. 3.50 Youandi. 4.25 Duchess Of Tubber. 5.00 Scarf. 5.35 General's Orders.

GOING: HEAVY SIS

2.00 ALLERWASH NOVICES CHASE
(£2,820: 2m 110yd) (4 runners)
1 P301 PARIAH 19 (D,S) R Fisher 6-11-10 A Thornton
2 4026 BRIAR'S DELIGHT 24 (V,BF,G) R Allan 7-11-3 J Callaghan
3 0000 SHUT UP 24 (G) Mrs E Moscrop 6-10-12 F Perratt (3)
4 555F SUPER SANDY 42 F Watson 8-10-12 K Johnson
4-7 Pariah, 5-2 Briar's Delight, 6-1 Super Sandy, 25-1 Shut Up.

2.35 COASTLEY NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,304: 3m) (13)
1 00 AYLESBURY LAD 42 D Lamb 6-11-3 Mr A Manners (7)
2 00 BLUE IS THE COLOUR 26 C Parker 6-11-3 Mr D Parker (5)
3 PPU6 BUCKWHEAT LAD 16 P Cheesbrough 7-11-3 R Supple
4 2 MISTER MUDDYPAWS 54 J Johnson 5-11-3 N Doughty
5 2-56 MONY-SKIP 59 M Hammond 6-11-3 D Bentley
6 5-00 NORTH HOLLOW 14 (B) D McCain 10-11-3 D McCain
7 03 SIRERIC 55 S Bell 5-11-3 K Johnson
8 P/P TRICYCLING 10 (V) Mrs A Naughton 7-11-3 J Supple (5)
9 D TYNDRUM GOLD 12 S Norton 5-11-3 O Pears
10 FFP5 BLACK MAGIC WOMAN 15 J Hellens 7-10-12 A Lamach (3)
11 -008 BLUEBELL TRACK 10 V Thompson 9-10-12 Mr M Thompson
12 00 MISS MCCORMICK 42 D Alder 6-10-12 T Reed
13 52 FLAT TOP 15 M W Easterby 4-10-7 J Driscoll (7)
2-1 Flat Top, 5-2 Mister Muddypaws, 6-1 Sireric, 8-1 Mony-Skip, 10-1 Blue Is The Colour, 12-1 Black Magic Woman, 14-1 Buckwheat Lad, 16-1 others.

3.15 BARRIER FIRE PROTECTION HANDICAP CHASE (£2,740: 2m 4f 110yd) (6)
1 551P ANOTHER DYER 17 (D,S) L Lungo 11-11-10 T Reed
2 4255 BLAZING DAWN 10 (D,G,S) V Thompson 8-11-7 Mr M Thompson
3 -83P KHOJOHN 128 (F,G,S) Mrs V Aconley 7-11-3 P Gould (7)
4 /80 THE MOSSES 61 (B,D,F,S) W Sample 10-11-2 K Johnson
5 /06 ABBENOIR 37 (G,S) Mrs M Kendall 13-10-10 Mrs M Kendall
6 0086 GREEN TRIX 42 C Parker 7-10-0 Mr D Parker (5)
6-4 Another Dyer, 7-4 Green Trix, 5-1 Blazing Dawn, 8-1 Khojohn, 12-1 Abbenoir, 20-1 The Mosses.

3.50 FALLOWFIELD CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS MARES ONLY HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,108: 2m) (7)
1 P0-0 SHARRIBA 54 (D,S) D Moffatt 6-12-0 M Molloy (3)
2 5154 YOUANDI 6 (D,S) L Lungo 5-11-4 F Perratt
3 0058 EMERALD CHARM 19 J Charlton 7-10-7 A K Smith (7)
4 0004 ZAAHEYAH 13F (S) M Hammond 5-10-5 D Bentley
5 -F0F HERE COMES TIBBY 17 (CD,S) W Reed 8-10-2 J Burke
6 456P MISS JEDD 5 (B) W Young 8-10-0 R Murphy (5)
7 -PPP ROMAN SWORD 37 (B) S Leadbetter 7-10-0 G Cahill (5)
5-4 Youandi, 7-2 Sharriba, 4-1 Emerald Charm, 5-1 Zaaheyah, 16-1 others.

4.25 WIN WITH THE TOTE HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,493: 4m) (8)
1 2246 OVER THE DEEL 17 (F,G,S) J Johnson 9-11-10 F Leahy (5)
2 40P3 VIVA BELLA 14 (B,CD,G,S) Mrs S Bramall 8-11-5 J Burke
3 3401 DIAMOND FORT 8 (F,G,S) J McConnochie 10-11-2 (6ex) R Bellamy
4 3100 PINK GIN 41 (F,G,S) M Hammond 8-11-0 D Bentley
5 3663 DUCHESS OF TUBBER 5 (C,S) R Fisher 7-10-0 A Thornton
6 5P41 GALA WATER 5 (S) (C) T Dun 9-10-0 (6ex) T Reed
7 4005 GATHERING TIME 16 (B,S) Mrs S Smith 9-10-0 Mr L Donnelly (7)
8 6404 TRUELY ROYAL 5 (G,S) J Charlton 11-10-0 Mr D Parker (5)
5-2 Duchess Of Tubber, 7-2 Viva Bella, 4-1 Gala Water, 9-2 Pink Gin, 5-1 Over The Deel, 8-1 Duchess Of Tubber, 25-1 others.

5.00 RIDING MILL HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,049: 3m) (9)
1 2504 LION OF VIENNA 17 (D,S) T Carr 8-11-10 T Reed
2 -FP5 SCARF 5 (S) J J O'Neill 7-11-6 A Roche (3)
3 3050 VERY EVIDENT 17 (BF,S) G Moore 6-10-12 J Callaghan
4 4354 WHITE DIAMOND 6 (D,F,S) Mrs A Swinbank 7-10-11 J Railton
5 P200 MANWELL 6 (S) B Temple 8-10-9 E Callaghan (7)
6 0PP0 FIRST LORD 42 (D,G,S) Mrs V Aconley 9-10-7 P Gould (7)
7 P662 SHELTON ABBEY 89 (B,D,F,G,S) J Wade 9-10-6 K Jones
8 0012 RUA ROS 16 (S) Mrs S Smith 5-10-0 Mr P Murray (7)
9 -433 GERMAN LEGEND 16 D Lamb 5-10-0 Mr A Manners (7)
11-4 Lion Of Vienna, 7-2 Rua Ros, 5-1 German Legend, 11-2 Scarf, 6-1 White Diamond, 8-1 Very Evident, 12-1 Shelton Abbey, 20-1 others.

5.35 LEVY BOARD NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE
(£1,290: 2m) (10)
1 U0 PAINT YOUR WAGON 10 N Chamberlain 5-11-2 Miss C Metcalfe (7)
2 0 ROBARA 37 S Leadbetter 5-11-2 G Cahill (7)
3 13 GENERAL'S ORDERS 19 (S) J Norton 4-11-1 W Fry (7)
4 DAISY DAYS J Johnson 5-10-11 F Leahy (5)
5 0 PEACHY BEACH 47 N Mason 5-10-11 J Supple (5)
6 STRONG TEMPO C Parker 6-10-11 Mr D Parker (5)
7 0 VALISKY 44 R Allan 5-10-11 S Melrose (7)
8 SALVO Mrs M Stirk 4-10-8 Mr S Swiers
9 CLARIEVAL J Johnson 4-10-3 S Taylor (7)
10 0 SEDGWICK HOUSE 19 R Fisher 4-10-3 M Molloy (7)
Evens General's Orders, 5-1 Daisy Days, 6-1 Clarieval, 8-1 Peachy Beach, 10-1 Sedgwick House, 12-1 Strong Tempo, Valisky, 20-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: T Carr, 3 winners from 10 runners, 30.0%; L Lungo, 12 from 43, 27.9%; W Reed, 10 from 55, 18.2%; G M Moore, 14 from 79, 17.7%, M Hammond, 19 from 110, 17.3%, J Johnson, 8 from 50, 16.0%.

JOCKEYS: T Reed, 23 winners from 110 rides, 20.9%; N Doughty, 11 from 60, 18.3%; A Lamach, 6 from 33, 18.2%; J Burke, 3 from 17, 17.6%; A Thornton, 4 from 34, 11.8%. Only qualifiers.

Blinkered first time

CHELTENHAM: 2.15 Gobsmacked, Mamnoon, Silver Wedge. HEXHAM: 2.35 Tricycling. 3.15 The Mosses. 3.50 Roman Sword. LINGFIELD PARK: 2.10 Storm Bidder. 5.15 Dahiyah.

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

Cheltenham

Going: soft (good to soft in places)

2.15 SUN ALLIANCE NOVICES' HURDLE (Grade 1: £41,824: 2m 5f)
PUTTY ROAD ch g Bob Back - Nil's Girl (Lady Harris) 5-11-7 N Williamson (7-1) 1.
Berude Not To b g Roselier - Decent Debbie (G Addiscott) 6-11-7 J Osborne (3-1) 2.
Treble Bob b g Bob Back - Mittens (Dr Michael Smurfit) 5-11-7 B Sheridan (9-4 fav) 3.
ALSO RAN: 9 Trickle Lad, 16 Call My Guest, Kilcone Abbot, 20 Sparky Gayle, 25 Go Ballistic (pu), Jibber The Kibber, Major Rumpus, Roberty Lea (bd), 33 Cadougold (6th), Encore Un Peu, My Rossini (5th), 40 Green Lane, 50 Givus A Call, 66 Tervel (4th), 100 Archer, Ealing Court, Oats N Barley (f), 200 Charmer's Well. 21 ran. NR: Tourist Attraction. Hd, 2l, sh hd, 10l, ¾l. D Nicholson at Temple Guiting. Tote: £6.80; £2.20, £2.00, £1.80. DF: £10.10. Trio: £8.30. CSF: £26.34.

2.50 QUEEN MOTHER CHAMPION CHASE (Grade 1 £77,848: 2m)
VIKING FLAGSHIP b g Viking - Fourth Degree (Roach Foods Limited) 8-12-0 C Swan (5-2 fav) 1.
Deep Sensation ch g Deep Run - Bannow Bay (R Eliot) 10-12-0 N Williamson (14-1) 2.
Nakir b g Nikos - Nabita (Jim Lewis) 7-12-0 J Osborne (7-2) 3.
ALSO RAN: 9-2 Bradbury Star (f), Travado, 15-2 Egypt Mill Prince, 25 Uncle Ernie (4th), 33 Katabatic (5th), Sniton Lane (6th), 500 Wild Atlantic. 10 ran. 5l, 2½l, 5l, 10l, 3l. D Nicholson at Temple Guiting. Tote: £3.10; £1.50, £3.10, £1.60. DF: £23.20. Trio: £36.50. CSF: £32.64.

3.30 CORAL CUP (Handicap hurdle: £39,822: 2m 5f)
CHANCE COFFEY gr g Pragmatic - Baby Isle (P J O'Donnell) 10-10-0 G M O'Neill (11-1) 1.
Derrymoyle b g Callernish - Luminous Lady (Herb M Stanley) 6-10-10 M Dwyer (12-1) 2.
Time For A Run b g Deep Run - Hourly Rate (J P McManus) 8-11-10 C Swan (10-1) 3.
Collier Bay b g Green Desert - Cockatoo Island (W E Sturt) 5-10-6 T Grantham (7-1) 4.
ALSO RAN: 6-1 fav Lemon's Mill, 10 Chief Minister, Manhattan Castle (pu), 14 Bama Boy (6th), 16 Fred Earth (pu), 20 Mystic Memory, 25 Bell Staffboy, Dominant Serenade, Shujan, Soba, The Illiad, 33 Fissure Seal, Givenime, Native Worth, Olympian, Redeemyourself, Second Call, Top Spin, Total Confusion, 40 Couture Stockings (5th), 50 Court Master, Gospel, His Way, Notable Exception, So Proud, 100 High Grade. 30 ran 3½l, sh hd, 3l, 2½l, sh hd. P O'Donnell at Kilmallock Co Limerick. Tote: £18.10; £3.70, £3.00, £3.00, £2.90. DF: £79.50. Trio. £190.40. CSF: £132.75 Tricast: £1,281.19.

4.05 SUN ALLIANCE CHASE (Grade 1: £49,162: 3m 1f)
BRIEF GALE b m Strong Gale - Lucky Chestnut (Miss Carrie Zetter) 8-10-13 P Hide (13-2) 1.
Harcon ch g Kemal - Cinnamon Saint (Mrs P J Conway) 7-11-4 K O'Brien (6-4 fav) 2.
Banjo B b g Beyssac - Fabinou (Darren C Mercer) 5-10-8 R Dunwoody (11-4) 3.
ALSO RAN. 4 Sweet Duke (4th), 25 Greenhil Tare Away (r), 33 Mad Thyme (6th), Scotton Banks (pu), 50 Cokenny Boy (f), Pataeku (5th), Smith's Band (pu), Unguided Missile (f), 100 Countoma (pu), 200 Benjamin Lancaster (pu). 13 ran. NR: Montebel. 9l, 15l, 12l, dist. 25l. J Gifford at Findon. Tote: £7.20; £1.60, £1.40, £1.70. DF: £7.20. Trio: £8.50. CSF: £15.49.

4.40 125th YEAR OF THE NATIONAL HUNT CHASE CHALLENGE CUP (Amateurs: £17,662: 4m)
FRONT LINE B ch g High Line - Caroles Delight (J P McManus) 8-12-7 Mr J Berry (7-1) 1.
Keano ch g Phardante - Nickel Run (Midavon Partnership) 6-12-0 Mr S Mulcaire (8-1) 2.
Lacken Cross br g Callernish - Kortasso (John J Howlett) 7-12-4 Mr H F Cleary (7-1) 3.
ALSO RAN: 13-2 fav Extra Special (pu), 8 Back Bar, 9 Sergeant Mularkey, 11 Banntown Bill (6th), 12 Mr Invader (ur), Wellane Boy (f), 14 Romany Creek (pu), 16 Stormy Skies (f), 20 Corymandel (pu), Time Enough (ur), 33 Desert Run (pu), Freddy Owen (ur), The Boolya (f), 50 Buckshot (f), Foxgrove (5th), Picketstone (pu), 66 Friendly Lady (pu), 100 Aly Daley (4th), David John (ur), Di Moda (pu), Simon Joseph (f), 150 Connie Foley (pu). 25 ran. NR: Urquarat. Dist, 7l, 7l, 8l, 1½l. J J O'Neill at Penrith. Tote: £6.70; £2.70, £3.00, £2.50. DF: £36.30. Trio: £87.80. CSF: £60.03.

5.15 45th YEAR OF THE MILDMAY OF FLETE CHALLENGE CUP HANDICAP CHASE (£25,827: 2m 4f 110yd)
KADI b g Shareef Dancer - Kaiserstreue (J E Brown) 6-10-4 N Williamson (11-2) 1.
Dublin Flyer b g Rymer - Dublin Express (J B Sumner) 9-11-3 B Powell (9-2 fav) 2.
Well Briefed br g Miner's Lamp - In Brief (Peter Jones) 8-9-9 Mr C Bonner (12-1) 3.
ALSO RAN: 5 Amtrak Express, 13-2 Easy Buck (f), 8 Beachy Head (f), 12 General Pershing (4th), Second Schedual (6th), 16 Loshian (f), One More Dream (pu), 20 Errant Knight (5th), Garrison Savannah. 12 ran. 1l, 15l, 12l, 10l, 4l. D Nicholson at Temple Guiting. Tote: £5.50; £1.80, £1.90, £6.60. DF: £9.60. Trio: £99.00. CSF: £28.43. Tricast: £256.39.

5.50 PRESTIGE MEDICAL FESTIVAL BUMPER (National Hunt flat race: Grade 1: £15,944: 2m 110yd)
DATO STAR br g Accordion - Newgate Fairy (Mrs Kath Riley) 4-10-12 M Dwyer (7-2) 1.
Red Blazer ch g Bustino - Klewraye (T H Shrimpton) 4-10-12 J Osborne (2-1 fav) 2.
Skehanagh Bridge b g Strong Gale - Natasha Ann (D A Pim) 6-11-6 Mr W Mullins (12-1) 3.
ALSO RAN: 7 Supervene, 9 Minella Master, 12 Maitre de Musique, 16 Lottery Ticket, Monicasman (5th), 20 Denise's Profiles (6th), Fontaine Fables, Wild West Wind, 25 Pharanear, 33 Political Panto, Wisley Wonder, 50 Holt Delivery, Kerlcleigh Lad, Mandical (4th), Omar, Tara Rambler, 66 Akulite, Lucia Forte. 21 ran. 1¾l, 3½l, 5l, 2½l, sh hd. J Jefferson at Malton. Tote: £4.50; £1.90, £1.70, £2.80. DF: £3.90. Trio: £46.20. CSF: £11.44

Jackpot: not won (pool of £142,510.48 carried forward to Cheltenham today).

Placepot: £30.40. Quadpot: £21.50.

Nottingham

Going: good to soft (soft in places)

2.10 (2m 5f 110yd hdle) 1, Five Flags (R Wilkinson, 8-1); 2, Luks Akura (4-1 fav); 3, Quiet Mistress (11-2); 4, Cloghran Lad (8-1). 21 ran NR: She Knew The Rules. 2l, 7l. Mrs S Smith. Tote: £12.80; £3.30, £1.20, £2.50, £3.20. DF: £18.20. CSF: £43.82. Tricast: £193.29.

2.40 (2m 5f 110yd ch) 1, Distinctive (J F Titley, 9-4); 2, Master Of The Rock (15-2); 3, Glaisdale (2-1 fav). 9 ran. 12l, 12l. M Wilkinson. Tote: £2.50; £1.70, £2.10, £1.30. DF: £8.20. CSF: £18.33.

3.10 (2m 5f 110yd hdle) 1, Island Chief (R Supple, 3-1); 2, Imad (2-1 fav); 3, Mylend (7-2). 18 ran. 2l, 15l. P Beaumont. Tote: £5.00; £1.20, £1.90, £1.90. DF: £5.20. CSF: £10.33.

3.45 (2m hdle) 1, Khalidi (Miss S Mitchell, 9-1); 2, Chill Wind (4-1); 3, Shahgram (2-1 fav). 8 ran. NR: Northern Nation. Nk, 4l. D Gandolfo. Tote: £14.70; £3.60, £1.60, £1.10. DF: £43.30. CSF: £42.58. Tricast: £92.14

4.20 (3m 4f hdle) 1, Rufus (W McFarland, 12-1); 2, Pollerton's Pride (4-1); 3, Fortunes Course (9-4 fav). 8 ran. 4l, 1½l. B Smart. Tote: £30.40; £3.80, £1.40, £1.30. DF: £12.80. CSF: £53.22. Tricast: £130.40.

4.55 (3m 3f 110yd ch) 1, The Boiler White (A P McCoy, 2-1 fav); 2, Young Miner (5-1); 3, Impeccable Timing (11-2). 8 ran. 3½l, 13l. T Thomson Jones. Tote: £2.90; £1.10, £1.70, £1.30. DF: £9.30. CSF: £12.55. Tricast: £44.80.

5.30 (2m flat race) 1, Feldspar (D Bentley, 15-2); 2, Rolled Gold (13-2); 3, Catty Hang (16-1). Charming Girl 6-4 fav. 20 ran. Nk, 6l. J Edwards. Tote: £16.60; £1.70, £3.10, £11.60. DF: £39.60. CSF: £59.73.

Placepot: £3.10.

Quadpot: £1.70.

Newton Abbot

Going: heavy

2.30 (2m 6f hdle) 1, Feels Like Gold (P Holley, 4-6 fav); 2, Red Parade (2-1); 3, Wise Fiorzel (50-1). 7 ran. 1½l, 30l. M Pipe. Tote: £1.50; £1.10, £1.30. DF: £1.40. CSF: £2.86.

3.00 (2m 5f ch) 1, Pop Song (A Thornton, 9-1); 2, Toureen Prince (4-6 fav); 3, Abbotsham (11-1). Only 3 finished. 5 ran. 4l, dist. G Roe. Tote: £9.80; £2.70, £1.80. DF: £3.90. CSF: £15.93.

3.40 (2m 6f hdle) 1, Super Spell (R Massey, 9-4 fav); 2, Warfield (11-4); 3, Elite Reg (5-2). 5 ran. 20l, 3½l. G Ham. Tote: £2.60; £1.70, £1.20. DF: £5.00. CSF: £7.95.

4.15 (3m 2f 110yd ch) 1, Allo George (A Thornton, Evens fav); 2, Skerry Meadow (11-1). Only 2 finished. 4 ran. Dist. A Newcombe. Tote: £1.80. DF: £11.00. CSF: £8.88. After a stewards' inquiry, result stood.

4.50 (2m 110yd ch) 1, Agra (M Richards, 4-5 fav); 2, Pioneer Pete (8-1); 3, Coolree (5-2). 5 ran. Sh hd, 20l. M Pipe. Tote: £1.60; £1.40, £2.60. DF: £2.20. CSF: £8.29.

5.25 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Daily Sport Girl (Mr J L Llewellyn, 7-4 fav); 2, Suran (9-2); 3, Nine O Three (7-2). 7 ran. 2½l, ¾l. B Llewellyn. Tote: £2.40; £1.40, £1.90. DF: £6.70. CSF: £10.11.

Placepot: £8.00.

Quadpot: £9.40.

☐ The Cheltenham Festival crowd was a record for the second day running with the total of paying customers returned at 38,450, up 1,878 on a year ago.

Agile minds enable Scotland to flower

David Hands speaks to the coach who deprived England of the 1990 grand slam



David Sole, the captain, celebrates Scotland's decisive victory against England at Murrayfield five years ago

"I couldn't believe, still can't, the first 15 minutes of that game in 1990. It was exactly what we wanted. They were probably the best England side ever. We said so in the press and we believed it, but for that first part of the game they didn't have any ball, in a usable position."

That was five years ago when, for all the magnificent efforts of his players, half the credit for Scotland's rugby union grand slam went to their coach, Ian McGeechan. Calcutta Cup, triple crown, five nations' championship, all may have been decided at Murrayfield on March 17, but it was during the preceding days that McGeechan had laid down the strategy that was to defeat England.

Now all the domestic game's prizes go on offer again with substantial differences: this Saturday, England are on their own turf at Twickenham, they are a side who have achieved and their collective experience (460 caps as against 291) far outweighs that of Scotland. "England are on a roll, like Scotland, but they are at home, they have the experience, they must be huge favourites . . . but so they were in 1990," McGeechan said.

So where did the plot go astray? "Any good side is a rhythm side," McGeechan, whose charges in his professional role at Northampton include the England forwards, Tim Rodber and Martin Bayfield, said. "England had been so impressive they hadn't had to think about changing tactics. I identified who they played through and we worked on ways of not allowing them into that pattern.

"Once I'd isolated the way they wanted to play I put pieces of video together from every game, and you could almost put one on top of the other. Then we threw things at them they hadn't had to think of before. Their key men were the lineout, where they had not one variation, and Will Carling, who was taking them over the gain line.

"Until Mike Catt came along, they were never really a force from full back, they've always attacked with six men rather than seven. We reckoned that if you put a lot of pressure on the midfield, they wouldn't bring the wings in so we were automatically cutting out the wider threat. And we had the best Scottish team I can remember: they were strong characters and they were flexible.

"We acknowledged that at some stage of the game we would be under pressure like we had never known before, because England were a good side. They were always going to get it right at some stage during the match, when we would go through an intense 15 to 20 minutes, so we worked on defence. We wanted two players in the area of every ball-carrier so that when one tackle went in, there was always someone else within striking distance.

"We wanted to be tight and we wanted to keep the ball on the move. We played tap and go and we knew that, with a New Zealand referee [David Bishop], we would be allowed to ruck. England liked to go to ground whereas we thought if we stayed on our feet, we might pick up penalties. Even so, we needed that period of initial domination to prove to ourselves it could be done. We got hold of the game and we got points on the board."

If England, who lost 13-7, were strong, then McGeechan believes them to be stronger now with the addition of Catt and because of their greater mental agility. "They are playing a more tactical game and they have more decision-makers.

"Now their lineout is even bigger and their back row has been such an influential attacking platform. They probably have better natural ball players all round the front five, they work together well and Rob Andrew can vary the next point of attack."

So where will Scotland win on Saturday, given that whatever else they may do, England will not underestimate them in the way they did five years ago? "Scotland really believe they should be there, that they can do things. You can see a lightness of foot that developed against Ireland: five players came in from the Scotland A side that beat the South Africans, Rob Wainwright comes back, you only need two or three things to go right and you're a better side than people imagined. They've grown up very quickly together and they have moved on tactically. We were old-fashioned, predictable.

"Scotland are smaller than England but they can get under them and there is a greater understanding, by both sides, of the need to keep the ball in hand and not kick it away. The great thingabout this game, about this championship, is that we have a final day which no one predicted and we are at last developing a game that is akin to the southern-hemisphere nations.

"Scotland have to know how to put pressure on England and be realistic about what they can achieve. They have to stop England controlling set-piece ball.

"They know they have to play the game of their lives but that was the case in 1990. You only need an advantage for 15 to 20 minutes and if you turn it into points you have a tremendous psychological hold on the game. But Scotland won't win it with just heart and spirit, they have to play it with their heads, know exactly what they are trying to do and do it for 80 minutes. Some people still think 1990 was harum-scarum. It wasn't. It was very disciplined, very careful thinking on and off the field."

Andrew at work, page 14

RADIO CHOICE

The return of Old King Coal

Tower. *Radio 4, 2.00pm.*

Writing his play about the impact on a South Wales valley of the national coal strike ten years ago, Greg Cullen has not opted for the easy way out. He has liberally flavoured fact with fantasy. The fact is straightforward enough: Tower, the last deep mine in South Wales, faces closure. The miners have three choices — fight the closure, take redundancy money, or buy the pit and run it themselves. The play's fantasy element is provided by a doughty but dead miners' champion (Islwyn Morris) who ineffectually insinuates himself into the action while telling us a fairy-tale in which he is king and his bereaved family are knights and princesses. Pullen writes with much wit, imagination and, above all, an acute understanding of the resilience of the Welsh at bay.

Paradise Lost in Space. *Radio 4, 6.30pm.*

Episode two of Colin Swash's serial indicates the route the remaining episodes will take. Togged up as comedy, with funny red nose prominently displayed, the serial is nonetheless about the mess the human race leaves behind it wherever it goes. The ill-matched couple (Tony Robinson, David Haig) who fetch up on a distant planet in their toilet cubicle, tonight introduce fire and the jacket potato to its inhabitants. However, the process of sophistication had already started, space junk in the shape of a volume of Noël Coward plays having been washed up on the planet. **Peter Davalle**

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Clive Warren **6.30** Steve Wright **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Lisa I'Anson, including at **12.30-12.45pm** Newsbeat **2.00** Nicky Campbell, live from Glasgow with the Scottish heat of *War of the Noses* **4.00** Mark Goodier, including at **4.20** The Amazing Spiderman; and at **5.30-5.45** Newsbeat **7.00** Evening Session **9.00** Soundbite **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **12.00-4.00am** Lynn Parsons

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **6.00am** Sarah Kennedy **8.15** Pause for Thought **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Gloria Hunniford **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Marc Blake's Whining for England **7.30** David Allan **9.00** Paul Jones including blues guitarist Mick Pini and his band **10.00** British Country **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Steve Madden **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** The Breakfast Programme **8.35** The Magazine, including at **9.40** Film Review; **10.35** Euronews; **11.00** Gut Reaction **12.00** Midday with Mair, including at **12.34pm** Moneycheck **2.05** The Cheltenham Festival; and at **3.45** Prime Minister's Question Time **4.30** Nationwide **7.00** News Extra **7.35** Women on Top **7.55** The Thursday Match: Auxerre v Arsenal **10.05** News Talk **11.00** Night Extra, including at **11.45** The Financial World Tonight **12.05am** Night Moves **2.05** Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am Maurice Dee, Carol McGiffin **10.00** Scott Chisholm **1.00pm** Anna Raeburn **3.00** Tommy Boyd **7.00** Samantha Meah, Sean Bolger **10.00** Caesar **1.00am** Al Kelly

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. **4.30am** BBC English **4.45** Fruhmagazin **5.00** Newshour **6.00** Morgenmagazin **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** News **7.15** *The Inseperable Twins* **7.30** Network UK **8.00** News **8.15** Words of Faith **8.15** Good Books **8.30** John Peel **9.00** News **9.05** Business Report **9.15** From Our Own Correspondent **9.30** Farming **9.45** Sport **10.00** News **10.01** Assignment **10.30** Quote Unquote **11.00** Newsdesk **11.15** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **12.00** News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** Multitrack **12.45** Sport **1.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** *The Inseperable Twins* **2.45** The Learning World **3.00** News **3.15** Greenfield Collection **3.30** Cheltenham Gold Cup **3.40** Greenfield Collection cont. **4.00** News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Heute Aktuell **5.00** News **5.05** Business **5.15** BBC English **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.00** News **7.05** Outlook **7.30** On the Move **7.45** Farming **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The World Today **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** News **10.05** Business Report **10.15** Network UK **10.45** Sport **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Quote Unquote **12.00** News **12.15am** Music Review **1.00** News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** On the Move **1.45** Global Concerns **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** A History of the Novel **3.00** News **3.15** Sport **3.30** Focus on Faith **4.00** Newsdesk

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Angela Rippon **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Classic Reports **7.00** The Travel Guide **8.00** Evening Concert **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Robert Booth

VIRGIN 1215

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono **9.00** Richard Skinner **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Wendy Lloyd **7.00** Paul Coyte **11.00** Nick Abbot **2.00am** Janey Lee Grace

RADIO 3

6.30 Open University: Social Science Foundation Course: Assignment 103
6.55 Weather
7.00 On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Handel (Concerto grosso in F, Op 3 No 4a); Bax (Legend); Ravel (Piano Concerto for the Left-Hand); Francesco Cavalli (Lauda Jerusalem); Purcell (A selection of songs); Stravinsky (Petrushka)
9.00 Composer of the Week: Wagner (The Ring: Tristan; The Mastersingers; Huldingungsmarsch; Polka in G; Eine Sonate für das Album von Frau MW; Ankunft bei den schwarzen Schwänen; Albumblatt in C, in das Album der Fürstin Metternich; Wesendonck Lieder)
10.00 Musical Encounters: Gabrieli (Sonata XX a 22, Canzoni e Sonate 1615); **10.07** *Artist of the Week:* Dmitri Hvorostovsky, baritone, Borodin (No sleep, no rest, Prince Igor); **10.15** Mozart (Piano Concerto No 12 in A); Grainger (Scotch Strathspey and Reel); Beethoven (Bagatelles, Op 126, excerpts); Bax (Symphony No 3: Hallé Orchestra)
12.00 Ensemble: The Fibonacci Sequence (r)
1.00pm The Boston Romantics: Music from late 19th-century Boston, including George Chadwick, Horatio Parker and Charles Ives
2.00 Schools: Radio Q and A **2.05** In the News **2.25** Something to Think About: Infant Assemblies **2.40** Music Workshop: Music Course 3 • Orpheus
3.00 The BBC Orchestras: BBC Symphony Orchestra under Günter Herbig. Webern (Passacaglia, Op 1); Haydn (Sinfonia Concertante in B flat); Dvořák (Symphony No 8 in G)
4.15 York Piano Trio: William Reed (Piano Trio, Op 27); William Hurlstone (Piano Trio in G) (r)
5.00 The Music Machine: Tommy Pearson explores musical entertainment in the Second World War, and discovers how music helped morale
5.15 In Tune: Mozart (Concert aria: Ch'io mi scordi di te); Brahms (Ballade in B, Op 10 No 4)
7.00 Artaxerxes, live from the Stationers' Hall, London. Parley of Instruments under Roy Goodman perform Thomas Arne's opera, based on his own translation of Metastasio, in a new reconstruction by Peter Holman. Acts 1 and 2; **8.50** Interval: Peter Holman looks at the problems of reconstructing the opera; **9.10** Act 3
10.15 Time and Changes: Stan Tracey, jazz pianist and composer, talks to Geoffrey Smith
10.45 Night Waves: Christopher Cook asks why so many girls but so few boys read Louisa May Alcott
11.30-12.30am Voices: Matthias Görne, baritone, and Wolfram Rieger, piano, perform songs by Schubert, Beethoven and Schumann
1.30-2.40 Night School: Come and Praise Special **2.00** German 12-14: Radio Aktiv

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing; Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day, with the Rev Ruth Scott **6.30** Today incl **7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **7.25, 8.25** Sport **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 The Moral Maze: Michael Buerk chairs a discussion on the moral questions behind the week's news. With Janet Daley, Rabbi Hugo Gryn, Edward Pearce and Dr David Starkey
10.00-10.30 News; After Eden (FM only): Alison Leonard's six-part drama series about a woman priest. With Christine Pritchard (3/6)
10.00 Daily Service (LW only)
10.15 Something Understood (LW only): Mercy A spiritual anthology
10.30 Woman's Hour: Lebanese writer Hanan al Shaykh talks to Jenni Murray
11.30 From Our Own Correspondent: Reports from BBC correspondents around the world
12.00 News; You and Yours, with Tasneem Siddiqi
12.25pm Questions of Taste: Chris Kelly introduces highlights from the food-and-drink panel game (r) **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Tower: See Choice
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope: Paul Allen reviews Shakespeare's *Titus Andronicus*; Howard Barker's latest play, *Judith*, at the Leicester Haymarket; and Patricia Highsmith's last novel
4.45 Telling Stories: Bertram's Funeral. David Burke reads *Allan Massie's story*
5.00 PM, with Linda Lewis and Hugh Sykes **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Paradise Lost in Space: See Choice
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Soundtrack: Gerry Gable has dedicated most of his life to exposing the activities of the far right in the pages of his anti-fascist magazine
8.00 Analysis: The Human Factor. Denys Blakeway examines the debate over human nature and its implications for public policy
8.45 Stranger Than Fiction: In the second of a six-part series, Jill Paton Walsh considers the Gospel accounts of the trial and death of Jesus
9.00 Does He Take Sugar? For people with disabilities
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight
10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Diary of Adam and Eve, by Mark Twain. Read by Patrick Barlow (1/2) (r)
11.00 A Wagner Matinee: Willa Cather's moving short story of self-sacrifice in 1890s Boston, dramatised by Sara Baker. With Ron Le Van
11.30-12.00 Postcard from Gotham (FM only) (r)
11.30 Today in Parliament (LW)
12.00-12.43am News incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (LW)

RADIO 1: FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2: FM-88-90.2. RADIO 3: FM-90.2-92.4. RADIO 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6; LW 198. RADIO 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LONDON RADIO: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. CAPITAL: 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. GLR: FM 94.9; WORLD SERVICE: MW 648kHz/463m. CLASSIC FM: FM-100-102. VIRGIN: MW-1215, 1197, 1242 kHz. TALK RADIO: MW 1089, 1053kHz. *Listings compiled by Rosemary Smith and Susan Thomson*

Townsend relives dream

BY MARK SOUSTER

ASKING a Scottish rugby union supporter what he was doing on March 17, 1990, is rather like asking of an Englishman his whereabouts on July 30, 1966. Gregor Townsend certainly remembers where he was when Scotland upset the odds so dramatically to beat England 13-7 and claim the grand slam — at Boys Brigade camp near Inverness.

There, as a 16-year-old schoolboy, he and a friend watched the final ten minutes of that pulsating encounter on a flickering television set.

Already a talented stand-off half who had represented Scotland at under-15 level, Townsend recalls the surge of pride at that success and his own thoughts at the time. "I knew I wanted to be there in a similar situation," he said. On Saturday, at Twickenham, when Scotland and England again meet in a grand-slam decider, he will be. Now 21 and in his final year at Edinburgh University, Townsend epitomises the wind of change that is blowing through Scottish rugby.

The Gala centre and stand-off who, over the past three years, has built a reputation as the most gifted rugby footballer of his generation in Scotland, if not the most consistent, made his debut at Twickenham in 1993 as a replacement. Two years and 11 caps later, his return to London for such a big occasion will hold few terrors for a young man whose philosophy about the way the game should be played remains the same whatever the stage.

"You must enjoy yourself and the way you play," he said. "It's far better to play your best rugby and lose than play badly and win. Rugby, after all, is an amateur sport, and you should still enjoy it."

Heresy, perhaps, to some. Yet Townsend, a Corinthian spirit who has recovered from Dougie Morgan, the Scotland coach, publicly condemning his performance in the first international against Argentina last summer, remains undaunted.

He and Kenny Logan, his international team-mate with whom he has risen through the ranks, are confident, exciting players: the heartbeat of a team that is improving with every game. Logan proved his value against Wales on March 4; Townsend had done so in Paris a fortnight before.

Jim Telfer, the Scottish Rugby Union director of rugby, said that Townsend came of age that day. He scored his first international try at Parc des Princes and then set up the majestic match-winner for Gavin Hastings.

The image of Townsend riding two despairing French tackles just long enough to deliver a back-hand pass to Hastings is one that will linger. It had the mark of genius. Yet, only minutes before, Townsend's failure to find touch had resulted in France scoring what looked like the winning try. That, to some, was the flawed side of this most talented of players.

Townsend has speed off the mark, an ability to create space and to exploit a gap, and a bewitching side-step. The tag "unfulfilled potential" has been cast aside. England have been warned.

England adjust try target

"ENGLAND have lost the knack of scoring tries," Jack Rowell said in South Africa last summer. The statistics for their five matches in the 1993-94 season confirmed his view: four were devoid of tries and the fifth, against Wales, offered two — one from a lineout on the Welsh line (David Hands writes).

Since then, matters have picked up. England's first two internationals under Rowell's management produced two tries in the two meetings with South Africa, but this season they have averaged three a match; had they accepted all the scoring chances offered, notably against Ireland, it would have been four. But the record under Rowell's predecessor, Geoff Cooke, should not be judged by his final season. There were two seasons when England's try count rivalled this season: the grand-slam season of 1992 and that of 1990 which ended when the grand slam went to Scotland.

In Cooke's first two seasons England were lacking confidence, although they did close 1988-89 with nine tries against Romania. Once they had persuaded themselves they were a competitive force, they enjoyed a magnificent 1989-90, with ten tries against Fiji, but the loss to Scotland forced them into a period of introspection from which they did not emerge until a prize stood on the shelf — their 1991 grand slam.

The World Cup did not allow them to relax, but thereafter they scored 15 tries in the five nations' championship. The laws changed, and some key personnel, and the tries dried up in the next two seasons. A change of management and coach has forced the players to adjust their sights: the result has been the integrated game this season.



WORD WATCHING

Answers from page 35

BOSIE

(c) A googly bowled at cricket, ie something that looks as though it is going to be a leg-break but turns out to be an off-break or a top-spinner, hypocoristic, ie a pet name, from B. T. J. Bosanquet, an English cricketer. Charlie Grizmett, *Getting Wickets,* **1930: "It was at this time that I learned to bowl the bosie or googly — an off-break with a leg-break action."**

CWM

(b) A valley, in physical geography a bowl-shaped hollow partly enclosed by steep walls lying at the head of a valley or on a mountain slope and formed originally by a glacier, a cirque, from the Welsh *cwm* **a coomb. "While cwm may occur purely as a place-name, technically the word is restricted to the huge cauldron-shaped hollows found high up on the heavily glaciated slopes."**

DYSPHEMISM

(a) The substitution of an unpleasant or derogatory word or expression for a pleasant or inoffensive one, also, a word or expression so used, from the Greek *dus-* **ill, for the worse + *phēmismos* an expression. "Professor Carnoy, the distinguished French philologist, has coined the word dysphemism as a set-off to euphemism, to which it is directly opposed. It consists, above all, in the substitution for dignified or simply normal terms, of expressions borrowed from spheres more vulgar, familiar, and joyous."**

FLOBERT

(b) A breech-loading rifle or a cartridge designed for it, an eponym from the French armourer N. Flobert (1819-94). "The Flobert cartridge is notable as being an evolution of the percussion cap."

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Faldo sets sights on mastery of Augusta

FROM MEL WEBB IN ORLANDO

THE technicolor delights of the Masters await and, with less than three weeks to go before the annual pilgrimage to Augusta National, the high temple of golfing real estate, the great and the good of the game are gathering.

The leading 24 players in the world rankings have all arrived at Bay Hill for the Nestlé Invitational, which starts today, and while some may be confident, others less so, nobody will go into this tournament and what will follow it with more buoyancy than Nick Faldo.

Faldo shook a few and shocked a lot more when he committed himself to playing on the US PGA Tour this season. Barely muted accusations of desertion were muttered by certain sections of the British press, and by no means all of his fellow players on the PGA European Tour were behind his decision.

Accusations of many kinds have been levelled at Faldo over the years. He is not always his own best friend when it comes to making public utterances, and not even he has been immune from making the odd tactical error over his career path. Coming to the United States is emphatically not one of them.

After a quiet start, he has blossomed in the last fortnight, winning the Doral-Ryder Open two weeks ago and sharing second place with Ian Woosnam in the Honda Classic last week. He is a happy man, and he is allowing it to show.

"The idea when I decided to come here was to have some continuity and keep at it in consistently good conditions," he said. "I played pretty well on the West Coast, then had two good weeks off at Lake Nona, working at my game with David Leadbetter. When I won the Doral-Ryder, it made it all worthwhile."

Faldo faces opposition here from a host of celebrated figures, among them Woosnam, Severiano Ballesteros, José María Olazábal and Colin Montgomerie. All have reason to be satisfied with the opening weeks of the season. The happiest of the lot, however, remains Faldo, and the greatest indication of his feel-good factor came when he was asked if he would be ready if the Masters were to be played tomorrow. "Yep," he said with a small glint of battle in his eyes. "I'm ready." Those three little words were an unequivocal statement of intent.

Gambling is flight of fantasy says Davies

FROM PATRICIA DAVIES IN PHOENIX

WAY OUT west here in Arizona, home of the Standard Register Ping tournament, which starts today, the mystery of the missing defending champion was a story with a happy ending for Kristi Albers, a Texan from El Paso, who badly needed a good break.

It came courtesy of Laura Davies, who won the title last year but thought she had not been included in the pre-tournament WilTel shoot-out and, she said, went shopping. What about the rumour that she had taken the short flight to Las Vegas to indulge her passion for gambling?. "I went shopping," she insisted, grinning, and anxious that Rita, her mother, should not be misled by anything she might read in the papers about her gambling.

It might be useful to know, by the way, that the Davies money is on Algan in the Cheltenham Gold Cup and she has had her betting successes already this year.

Some of the renowned Davies luck must have rubbed off on Albers, who had missed two out of three cuts so far this season and had her car broken into on Monday. She and Kelly Robbins duly won the foursomes contest and $5,000 (about £3,160). "Now I'll be able to buy a new back window for my car," Albers said.

Davies does not hold out high hopes of repeating the heroics of last season — the best of her career — when she won three times in the United States in the space of five outings and was No 1 in the money-list, with earnings of $687,201. "History tells you it's very unusual to have years like that back to back," Davies, the consummate student of form, said.

However, having not played more than nine holes in six weeks at home before leaving to compete at Tucson last week, she was delighted with the form she showed in finishing 20th. "My iron play surprised me," she said. "I hit a lot of shots down the flag."

More of the same this week and she might surprise herself by winning again.

There are 15 Europeans playing here this week, but Catriona Matthew, the Scottish rookie, is not one of them. She is flying home to Edinburgh after having an operation to remove an ovarian cyst in Tucson last Thursday and is not expected to play for five or six weeks.

مكذا من الاصل

Real Dutch courage in the face of death

"Let us postpone no longer," Cees van Wendel said. It may have taken a few more syllables than Gary Gilmour's infamous "let's do it", but the meaning was identical. He wanted to die — now.

Actually, Van Wendel's request had contained far fewer syllables than the American murderer's — at least when it came to spoken ones. At the age of 63, this Amsterdam restaurant owner was in the final, terrible stages of motor neurone disease, an incurable condition that had already robbed him of his movement and had now taken away his speech. Instead, he spelt the letters out on a board, picking them out with a frail finger. His patient, devoted wife, Anthoinette, read them out. "Let . . . us . . . postpone . . . *no . . . longer.*" It was difficult to bear. It was impossible to bear.

It took about 45 minutes of **Death on Request** (BBC 2) last night before someone used the word "release". Dr Van Oijen was checking that his patient still wanted to go through with what the Dutch-made documentary called "the euthanasia". "You don't feel threatened by it?" "On the contrary," Cees croaked, "more of a release." "Yes," echoed the faithful Anthoinette, "a release." But it was also a release for us, release from one of the most powerful and emotionally draining pieces of television that I can recall seeing.

The death, when it came, was quick, quiet and devastating. Relief, such as there was, arrived only in the almost comic shape that the habits of a lifetime impose even at moments such as these. "Just tell me when you are ready, Cees," Dr Van Oijen said. "Let him finish his drink." Anthoinette snapped. "Cheers," croaked Cees, as he sucked a glass of port through a straw. It was the night of his 63rd birthday, the day he had chosen to be his last. As Anthoinette helped her husband into bed for the last time, the methodical Dr Van Oijen prepared his syringes.

Subtitles can lessen the impact of a foreign language production, but in this case they heightened it — raising the tension as communication moved slowly through the painful process of croaks, spelling board, Dutch and finally English. "Saying goodbye is to die a little," flashed up the subtitle as the last moments drew near. More croaks — "but now it is not a little". It definitely was not.

Although it had been promoted as impartial, it was difficult to see Maarten Nederhorst's caring and sympathetic film as anything other than in favour of euthanasia. A patient was suffering terribly and wanted to die. A doctor wanted to end the suffering. "What else can I offer him?" Dr Van Oijen asked. "No-one can give him an alternative."

REVIEW



Matthew Bond

The position of the doctor, as revealed by the film, is not an easy one — ethically, clinically or emotionally. Dr Van Oijen deliberately refuses to keep count of the patients he has "put to sleep" and admitted that he is not exactly, as the subtitles put it, the life and soul of the party. "It casts a shadow over my whole life."

Back in the Van Wendels' canal-side home, Cees's pain was about to end. The day before, he had written a letter of farewell to his wife on his specially adapted computer. It took less than a minute to read. It had taken him five hours to write. Now it was time to say goodbye. As Dr Van Oijen administered a strong sedative, Anthoinette held her husband's hand. "We're doing it together, aren't we Cees? Only I can't go with you now. You have to go by yourself."

When it was finally done, Anthoinette went into the back-room and blew her nose loudly. When it was finally done, I sat on the sofa and blew mine louder still.

For some unknown reason, Michael Jackson, the controller of BBC 2, had ensured that the evening had got off to an almost as disturbing start with the final instalment of the quite splendid *Magic Animal* series. After last week's little problem with the dolphins (turned out to be a bunch of porpoise murderers) it was the turn of **The Snake**. Visually, this was your worst nightmare, with the director, Ann Hawker, littering her Gothic set with very much alive and slithering serpents. I noticed, however, that they were kept well away from the narrator, Miranda Richardson.

If ever there was a reptile in need of an image makeover it is the snake. A zoo curator, who had somehow survived a close encounter with a black mamba, put it pretty succinctly, I thought. "First of all we have a problem with their shape." Yup. "They have none of the fuzzy, warm features that we identify as being desirable in other animals." No argument there. "And then . . ." Yes? ". . . some of them are venomous." I was out of there.

But there was no escape. ITV — rather cruelly I thought — was showing the feature film *Arachnophobia*, and on BBC 1 there was Esther Rantzen's *Hearts of Gold*. It was *Brookside* or the snakes? Reluctantly, I stayed with the snakes.

Richardson may have been an Ophidian-free zone, but she knew her snake history — recalling those halcyon, pre-Eden days when the snake was one of the good guys. The days when snakes were the symbol of just about everything — life, water, sex, healing, wisdom, even immortality. Then along came Eve, and it's been downhill and dust ever since.

Richardson, I recall, suggested it might be time for change — that to lose our fear we have to embrace the snake. Well, if she wants to cuddle up with a cobra that's fine. Personally, I was still recovering from the director's *plat du jour* — spaghetti with a live snake sauce. You want Parmesan on that?

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (65622)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (95133974)

9.05 Kilroy (s) (5284245)

10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (7506326) **10.05 EastEnders — The Early Days** (r). (Ceefax) (8686429) **10.35 Good Morning with Anne and Nick** (s) (7921993)

12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1364784) **12.05pm Pebble Mill** (s) (7130697) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (15836603)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (37790)

1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (77580177) **1.50 Going for Gold** (s) (77584993)

2.15 FILM: House of Secrets (1956) starring Michael Craig and Julia Arnall. Thriller about a British seaman who unwittingly becomes involved with a French counterfeiting gang planning to flood Britain with forged banknotes. Directed by Guy Green (404806)

3.50 Jackanory. Part three of Henrietta Branford's story *Dimanche Diller* (s) (8780871) **4.00 Robinson Sucroe.** (Ceefax) (9924968) **4.25 Animal Hospital** (s) (4161852) **4.35 Mud.** Comedy series. (Ceefax) (s) (1572887)

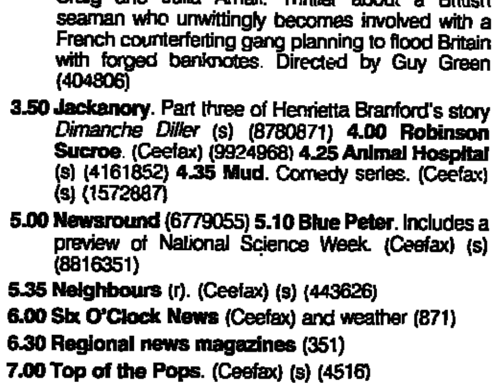
5.00 Newsround (6779055) **5.10 Blue Peter.** Includes a preview of National Science Week. (Ceefax) (s) (8816351)

5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (443626)

6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (871)

6.30 Regional news magazines (351)

7.00 Top of the Pops. (Ceefax) (s) (4516)



The return of Sharon (Letitia Dean) (7.30pm)

7.30 EastEnders (Ceefax) (s) (535)

8.00 Animal Hospital Week with Rolf Harris and Steve Knight. (Ceefax) (s) (3264)

8.30 Crown Prosecutor. Legal drama starring Michael Praed and Paris Jefferson There are some unwilling witnesses in a case against a porn fraudster. (Ceefax) (s) (9871)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (8451)

9.30 Crimewatch UK. Nick Ross and Sue Cook appeal for help from viewers in solving another catalogue of crimes. (Ceefax) (s) (863887)

10.15 Question Time. David Dimbleby's guests include Brian Mawhinney, the Transport Secretary, and Jo Brand, the comic. (Ceefax) (654500). **Wales:** 10.15 The State (774158) 10.45 Question Time (653871) 11.45 Crimewatch UK Update (496974) 11.55 Cagney and Lacey (383326) 12.45-2.10am FILM: The Knack and How to Get it (2136630)

11.15 Crimewatch UK Update (Ceefax) (s) (892974)

11.25 Cagney and Lacey. Vintage detective series(r). (Ceefax) (750429)

12.15am FILM: The Knack and How to Get it (1965). Offbeat comedy starring Michael Crawford, Ray Brooks and Rita Tushingham. A naive schoolteacher and a handsome bachelor persuade a young northern lass to rent their spare room. Directed by Richard Lester (1733765) **1.40 Weather** (6515123)

BBC2

6.20am Open University: Biology **6.45** Geology **7.10** A Tropical Rainforest **7.35** Magnetic Earth (70643887)

8.00 Breakfast News. (Ceefax and signing) (6563887)

8.15 Westminster On-Line (s) (4971210)

9.00 Daytime on Two: Square One TV (5349332) **9.20** Mathsphere (5263968) **9.40** You and Me (9038158) **9.45** Come Outside (5337413) **10.00-10.25** Playdays (8697535) **10.25** Ghostwriter (8690622) **10.55** Homes Across Europe (4673784) **11.10** Healthe 2 (6761993) **11.30** Landmarks (9094326) 11.50 Mad About Music (4999603) **12.10** Short Circuit (5876142) **12.30** Working Lunch (96806) **1.00** Lifeschool (57729413) **1.25** History File (87423055) **1.45** Storytime (25189603) **2.00pm** Stoppit and Tidyup (65718603) **2.05** Puppydog Tales (65717974)

2.10 Next With Marti Caine (s) (74542351) **2.35 From The Edge** (Ceefax) (7888697)

3.00 News (Ceefax) and weather followed by **Westminster with Nick Ross** (4179719)

3.50 News (Ceefax) and weather (8788413)

4.00 Today's the Day (s) (264) **4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook** (s) (448) **5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show** (Ceefax) (s) (3947974)

5.40 Glynn Christian's Entertaining Microwave (r) (449595)

6.00 Quantum Leap (r). (Ceefax) (808142)

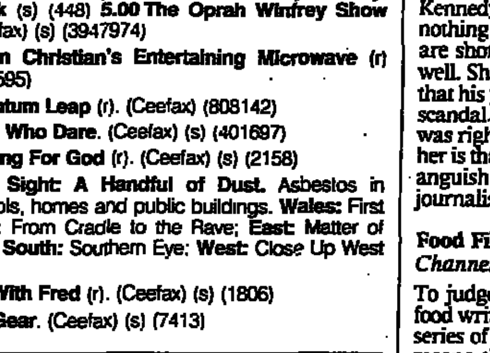
6.45 They Who Dare. (Ceefax) (s) (401697)

7.00 Waiting For God (r). (Ceefax) (s) (2158)

7.30 First Sight: A Handful of Dust. Asbestos in schools, homes and public buildings. **Wales:** First Sight: From Cradle to the Rave; **East:** Matter of Fact; **South:** Southern Eye; **West:** Close Up West (177)

8.00 Life With Fred (r). (Ceefax) (s) (1806)

8.30 Top Gear. (Ceefax) (s) (7413)



Rocker Sara Stockbridge (9.00pm)

9.00 The Glam Metal Detectives. (Ceefax) (4351)

9.30 CHOICE **The X Files: The Erlenmeyer Flask.** (Ceefax) (s) (861429)

10.15 Strange Stories. (Ceefax) (126500)

10.30 Newsnight with Kirsty Wark. (Ceefax) (770582)

11.15 Late Review (s) (641626) **11.55 Weather** (471790)

12.00 Open View (5041920)

12.05am The Chemistry of Almost Everything (4289104)

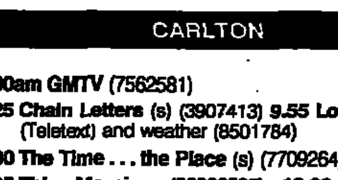
12.30 The Record (s) (3761746). Ends at **12.55**

4.30-5.15 BBC Select: Developing Family Literacy (99630) **5.00 Strathclyde TV — Putting You in the Picture** (7641746)

5.30-6.00 RCN Nursing Update (38494)

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CHOICE



Public face of Jackie Kennedy Onassis (C4, 9.00pm)

Secret Lives: Jackie
Channel 4, 9.00pm

She married two rich and famous men, lived unhappily with both, was twice widowed and spent the rest of her years in virtual seclusion until cancer killed her at the age of 64. Such is the story of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis. This reassessment spares us nothing in raking over her private life and where facts are short, speculation takes over. She still comes out well. She nobly endured Jack Kennedy's infidelities so that his presidential ambitions would not be tainted by scandal. Her dignified bearing after his assassination was rightly admired. The worst the film can say about her is that she was appallingly extravagant, a source of anguish to both husbands. But she was also, says the journalist Jack Anderson, a princess.

Food File
Channel 4, 8.30pm

To judge by his ample girth, Charles Campion is a food writer who enjoys his subject. He launches a new series of *Food File* with an *SOS: Save Our Shops*. He means the butcher, the baker, the greengrocer and other traditional high street stores, which are being slaughtered by out-of-town supermarkets. Campion visits the West Midlands, where Dudley's run-down and vandalised shops are sad testimony to the impact of the enormous Merry Hill Centre. A planning officer admits that the "disbenefits" of Merry Hill (known to locals as merry hell) were greater than envisaged. Tonight's other items are a guide to olive oil, UK sales of which have increased sixfold in ten years, and an Australian recipe for barbecued red snapper.

Alien Nations
Channel 4, 8.00pm

Andy Kershaw's instructive series on European identity takes him to Latvia and a population almost evenly divided between Latvians and Russians. Relations between the two are frosty and complicated by history. For half a century up to 1991 the country was part of the Soviet Union and Latvian culture was suppressed. Now it is the other way round. Latvians are asserting their identity and the Russians, many of whom grew up in the country, have become the second-class citizens. Russians who voted for Latvian independence in the 1991 referendum now feel cheated. Since the Russians are unlikely to up sticks and leave, the hope must be for mutual accommodation. Kershaw finds no sign of it.

The X Files
BBC2, 9.30pm

FBI agents Mulder (David Duchovny) and Scully (Gillian Anderson) sign off another series of investigations into the paranormal with a typically *scary tale about the cloning of extraterrestrial viruses.* The trail leads to a scientist who is doing strange things with monkeys and live human bodies *suspended in tanks of liquid.* Not for the first time in the series the United States Government is shown to be involved in secret work and trying to cover up the evidence. The show may be science-fiction but you feel that the line between fantasy and fact is not all that wide. Mulder and Scully may not be the most charismatic pair but they are our defence against the forces of darkness.

Peter Waymark

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (7562581)

9.25 Chain Letters (s) (3907413) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (8501784)

10.00 The Time . . . the Place (s) (7709264)

10.35 This Morning (26366535) **12.20pm London Today** (Teletext) and weather (1360968)

12.30 News (Teletext) and weather (2905351)

12.55 Emmerdale (r). (Teletext) (2817142) **1.25 Home and Away** (Teletext) (57804158)

1.55 Vanessa. Vanessa Feltz asks if blondes have more fun (35767351) **2.25 A Country Practice** (s) (74534332)

2.50 Gardeners' Diary. John Ravenscroft with seasonal advice (7052806) **3.20 ITN News** headlines (Teletext) (6881245) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (6880516)

3.30 The Riddlers (r) (2955535) **3.40 Wizadora** (r) (s) (8786055) **3.50 Rupert** (r) (3740041) **4.15 Animaniacs.** New series. (Teletext) (s) (6122142) **4.40 Fun House** with Pat Sharp. (Teletext) (s) (9836429)

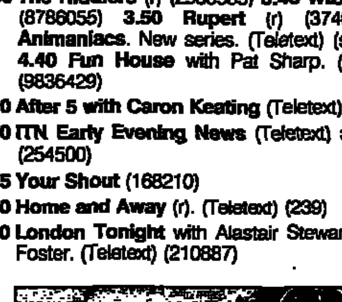
5.10 After 5 with Caron Keating (Teletext) (6067158)

5.40 ITN Early Evening News (Teletext) and weather (254500)

5.55 Your Shout (168210)

6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (239)

6.30 London Tonight with Alastair Stewart and Fiona Foster. (Teletext) (210887)



Jacqueline Pirie and Noah Huntley (6.50pm)

6.50 Emmerdale. Tina Dingle tries to tempt Luke. (Teletext) (235061)

7.20 3-D presented by Julia Somerville

7.50 The European Match — Live. Bob Wilson introduces coverage of the match between Auxerre and Arsenal, as the Gunners continue their attempt to be the first club to retain the European Cup Winners' Cup. **NB** In the event of extra-time followed by penalties, subsequent programmes are subject to delay or change (40381852)

10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (79697)

10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (818887)

10.40 Revelations starring Paul Shelley and Judy Loe. Edward and Jessica struggle to keep hold of reality (s) (545968)

11.10 Big City. Paul Ross and Carolyn Marshall take a look at what's on in and around London this week (s) (191142)

11.40 The Powers That Be. The life and times of an American senator and his family on Capitol Hill (711790)

12.15am The Little Picture Show with Mariella Frostrup (r) (187498)

1.15 The Beat (r) (s) (138302)

2.15 The Album Show (r) (s)(6616272)

3.10 America's Top Ten (r) (s) (68901456)

3.35 Sport AM (r) (8995524)

4.30 Videofashion (r) (93456)

5.00 Vanessa (r). (Teletext) (s) (73104)

5.30 ITN Morning News (25920). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.35am Spiff and Hercules (2900622)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (54413)

9.00 The Morning Line: The Cheltenham Festival. The experts set the scene. (s) (52974)

9.30 Schools. Middle English (5334326) **9.45** The New Living Body (5391535) **10.05** Scientific Eye (8681974) **10.27** Geographical Eye over Africa (6846210) **10.50** Your World (6018871) **11.00** History in Action (6767177) **11.20** Earth — The Home Planet (6208239) **11.40** The German Programme (s) (4995887)

12.00 House to House. Maya Even discusses politics behind the scenes (69210)

12.30pm Sesame Street. Susan St James and Robin Williams share with I, F and five. (45871)

1.30 Channel 4 Racing: The Cheltenham Festival. Brough Scott introduces live coverage of the **2.15, 2.50, 3.30 (Tote Cheltenham Gold Cup)** and **4.05** races (s) (861061)

4.30 Countdown. Maths and wordplay. (Teletext) (s) (516)

5.00 Ricki Lake: Man-Eating Mother-in-Laws. Ricki referees a discussion on relations by marriage. (Teletext) (s) (8995061)

5.50 Terrytoons. Animated classics. (254061)

6.00 The Cosby Show: The Getaway. Cliff and Clair are ecstatic as Sondra, Elvin and the twins plan to move into their own home. (Teletext) (581)

6.30 Saved By The Bell: The College Years. Slater, Alex, Zack and Leslie are taking a tough lesson in ethics — should they rummage through the teacher's desk for forthcoming test questions? (Teletext) (531) (s)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather. (Teletext) (218992) **7.50 The Slot.** Viewers' opinions. (153448)

8.00 CHOICE **Alien Nations: Riga.** (Teletext) (s) (6974)



Campion campaigns for small shops (8.30pm)

8.30 CHOICE **Food File** (Teletext) (s) (2581)

9.00 CHOICE **Secret Lives: Jackie** (Teletext) (s) (2055)

10.00 FILM: Babysnatcher (1992) Thriller based on a true story, starring Veronica Hamel as a woman who longs for a child and, after struggling to come to terms with a miscarriage, abducts a baby belonging to widow Nancy McKeon. Directed by Joyce Chopra. (Teletext) (470142)

11.45 Channel 4 Racing: The Cheltenham Festival. A review of the day's action including a rerun of the Gold Cup. (s) (370852)

12.35am Dispatches *(r). (Teletext) (1878307)*

1.25 *American Patchwork: Dreams and Songs of the* Noble Old. Songs and stories presented by Alan Lomax (r) (8177852)

2.40 FILM: Jewel Robbery (1932, b/w) Comedy starring William Powell as a sophisticated gentleman thief who romances baroness Kay Frances after stealing from her. Directed by William Dieterle. Ends at **3.55.** (2483843)

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Anglia News (8501784) **12.20pm-12.30** Anglia News (1360968) **1.55** The Young Doctors (77578332) **2.50-3.20** Take the High Road (7052806) **3.25-3.30** Anglia News and Weather (6880516) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (6067158) **6.25-6.50** Anglia Weather followed by Anglia News (535968) **10.30** Anglia News (818887) **10.40** Cover Story (545968) **11.10** Side Effects (698500) **12.05am** Married with Children (4276630) **12.30** Midnight Crossing (431982) **2.20** The Beat (5753340) **3.15** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (68900727) **3.40** Quiz Night (17344307) **4.05** Donahue (8778098) **4.50-5.00** Night Shift (34372814)

CENTRAL
As London except: 9.55-10.00 Central News (8501784) **12.20pm-12.30** Central News and Weather (1360968) **1.55** A Country Practice (77578332) **2.50-3.20** Take the High Road (7052806) **3.25-3.30** Central News (6880516) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (6067158) **6.24** Alternative Schedule (159897) **6.25** Central News and Weather (617516) **6.45-6.50** Life Line (843264) **9.29-9.30** Alternative Schedule (892871) **10.30-10.40** Central News and Weather (818887) **11.10** Side Effects (318852) **12.10am-12.15** Curtis Calls (4383765) **4.30** Jobfinder (5729494) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (7087340)

GRANADA
As London except: 9.55-10.00 Granada News (8501784) **12.20pm-12.30** Granada News (1360968) **12.55** Shortland Street (2817142) **1.25** Home and Away (87507061) **1.50** Vanessa (35662852) **2.20** The Main Ingredient (74453413) **2.50-3.20** Emmerdale (7052806) **3.25-3.30** Granada News (6880516) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (6067158) **6.25** Granada Tonight (535968) **6.50-7.20** Emmerdale (235061) **10.30** Granada News (818887) **10.40** Revelations (545968) **11.40** The Powers That Be (711790) **12.15am** The Little Picture Show (187498) 1.15 The Beat (138302) 2.15 The Album Show (6616272) **3.10** America's Top Ten (68901456) **3.35** Sport AM (8995524) **4.30** Jobfinder (93456) **5.00-5.30** Vanessa (73104)

HTV WEST
As London except: 2.25 Gardening Time (74452784) **2.55-3.20** Shortland Street (7968887) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (6067158) **6.30-6.50** HTV News (210887) **10.30** HTV West Headlines and Weather (818887) **10.40** Crimestoppers Special (545968) **11.10** The West This Week (191142) **11.40-12.15pm** Good Health! (711790) **4.30am-5.00** Jobfinder (93456)

HTV WALES
As HTV WEST except: 6.30-6.50 Wales Tonight (210887) **9.29-9.30** Alternative Schedule (892871) **10.30** HTV Wales News and Weather (818887) **10.40** Welsh & Wealthy (545968) **11.10** Grass Roots (191142) **11.40-12.15pm** The Twilight Zone (711790)

MERIDIAN
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (77578332) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (7052806) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (6067158) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (525581) **6.20-6.50** Grass Roots (448968) **9.29-9.30** Alternative Schedule (892871) **10.30** Meridian News and Weather (818887) **10.40** False Witness (53058622) **12.30am** Midnight Crossing (431982) **2.20** The Beat (5753340) **3.15** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (68900727) **3.40** Quiz Night (17344307) **4.05** Donahue (8778098) **4.50** Night Shift (34372814) **5.00-5.30** Freescreen (73104)

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 2.25-3.25 Wish You Were Here ? (74452784) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (6067158) **6.00-6.50** Westcountry Live (999448) **10.40** Married with Children (545968) **11.10-12.15pm** Prisoner Cell Block H (698210) **4.30am-5.00** Jobfinder (93456)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (77578332) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (7052806) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (6067158) **5.55** Calendar (995210) **6.20-6.50** Crosswits (448968) **9.29-9.30** Alternative Schedule (892871) **10.40** Edit V (275892) **11.25** Prisoner Cell Block H (693055) **12.20am** Johnnie Mae Gibson, FBI (127017) **2.05** America's Top Ten (7349340) **2.35** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (7201036) **3.05** The Manhunter (868949) **4.40-5.30** Jobfinder (5725678)

S4C
Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (54413) **9.00** The Morning Line. Cheltenham (52974) **9.30** Ysgolion (997790) **12.00pm** House To House (89210) **12.30** Slot Meithrin (819741) **1.00** Journeyman (57500) **1.30** Channel 4 Racing - Cheltenham (861061) **4.30** The Cosby Show (516) **5.00** 5 Pump (6090) **5.30** Countdown (968) **6.00** Newyddion (982332) **6.15** Heno (973535) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (4326) **7.30** Teulu (77448) **8.30** Newyddion (2581) **9.00** O Flaen Dy Lygaid Cowbois Cymru (2055) **10.00** Rising Damp (77239) **10.30** Hearts And Minds (4915245) **11.35** Alternative Fringe (498332) **11.45** Channel 4 Racing - Cheltenham (389500) **12.30am** Secret Lives. Walt Disney (54104)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
6.00am The DJ Kat Show (84429) **8.00** The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (29149) **8.30** Blockbusters (98790) **9.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (40871) **10.00** Concentration (50177) **10.30** Card Sharks (12326) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (77332) **12.00** The Urban Peasant (79626) **12.30pm** Anything But Love (45142) **1.00** St Elsewhere (40697) **2.00** If Tomorrow Comes (51806) **3.00** Oprah Winfrey (6196535) **3.50** The DJ Kat Show (4004603) **3.55** Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (9661993) **4.30** Mighty Morphin (6622) **5.00** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (9603) **6.00** Murphy Brown (4887) **6.30** Family Ties (2239) **7.00** Rescue (8072) **7.30** M*A*S*H (7351) **8.00** Manhunter (87142) **9.00** Under Suspicion (70806) **10.00** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (73993) **11.00** David Letterman (318332) **11.50** Littlejohn (920871) **12.40am** Chances (3299524) **1.30** WKRP (73765) **2.00** Hit Mix (1265320)

SKY NEWS
News on the hour
6.00am Sunrise (1344239) **9.30** News Extra (89332) **10.30** ABC Nightline (10968) **11.00** News and Business (432448) **1.30pm** CBS News (73413) **2.30** Parliament Live (93429) **4.00** World News and Business (32158) **5.00** Live at Five (8353429) **6.05** Littlejohn (19233210) **7.30** OJ Simpson Trial (2855055) **11.30** CBS News (38210)**12.30am** ABC News (98562) **1.30** News Extra (37272) **2.30** Parliament Replay (36543) **4.30** CBS News (62456) **5.30-6.00** ABC News (50630)

SKY MOVIES
6.00am Showcase (1294239) **10.00 And Then There Was One** (1994) (29158) **12.00 The Great Bank Robbery** (1969) (52581) **2.00pm Butch and Sundance: The Early Days** (1979) (64245) **4.00 Mister Ten Percent** (1966) (84833806) **5.55 And Then There Was One** (1994); As 10am (27351790) **7.30 E! News Week In Review** (9719) **8.00 Honeymoon In Vegas** (1992) (83326) **10.00 Bram Stoker's Dracula** (1992) (24068603) **12.10am Bob Roberts** (1992) (393123) **1.55 Overkill: The Aileen Wuornos Story** (1992) (858301) **3.30-5.20 Men of Respect** (1991) (160253)

SKY MOVIES GOLD
6.00pm The Killing (1956) (57993) **8.00 This Property is Condemned** (1966) (56210) **10.00-12.00 Midnight Cowboy** (1969) (32142)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.00am Hong Kong (1951) (18068) **8.00 To Catch a Yeti** (1993) (25030245) **9.35 Little Miss Broadway** (1938) (8871516) **10.50 Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm** (1938) (4445413) **12.10pm Just for You** (1952) (536239) **2.00 High Flight** (1958) (62887) **4.00 To Catch a Yeti** (1993): As 8am (2177) **6.00 The Babe** (1992) (75351) **8.00 The Thing Called Love** (1993) (81968) **10.00 Round Trip to Heaven** (1991) (184448) **11.40 Uninhibited** (1991) (661852) **1.20am Payoff** (1991) (532291) **3.10-4.40 Dr Heckyl and Mr Hype** (1980) (89003901)

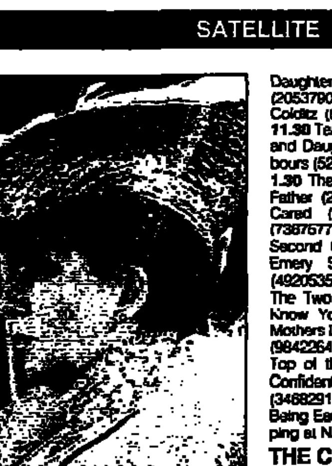
● **For more film information, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday**

SKY SPORTS
7.00am Soccer News (4653055) **7.15** WWF Challenge (214351) **8.15** Soccer News (2676784) **8.30** US Grand Prix Athletics (27603) **9.30** Aerobics Oz Style (76697) **10.00** The Rugby Club (39142) **11.00** Get Your Handicap Down (70332) **11.30** Grass Roots Rugby (71061) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (34177) **12.30pm** NBA Basketball (41061) **2.30** Snooker: Kloster Open (39177) **4.30** ATP Tennis Magazine (6210) **5.00** WWF Action Zone (2718) **6.00** Soccer News (973239) **6.15** Fish Tales (713662) **6.30** World of Rugby Union (8055) **7.00** Schoolboy Football: Victory Shield, Live — Scotland v Wales (14887) **9.00** Snooker: Kloster Open (47595) **11.00** Soccer News (516697) **11.15** Bootroom (714581) **12.15am** Transworld Sport (246494) **1.15-3.15** Schoolboy Football. Victory Shield (135369)

EUROSPORT
7.30am Eurotennis (84264) **8.30** Live Alpine Skiing (87429) **10.00** Nordic Skiing (36332) **11.30** Live Alpine Skiing (81897) **1.00pm** Tennis (11790) **1.30** Motors Magazine (89245) **2.30** Eurofun (1142) **3.00** Freestyle Skiing (77245) **4.00** Snowboarding (8622) **4.30** Live Nordic Skiing (40500) **5.30** Alpine Skiing (19158) **6.30** Eurosport News (9351) **7.00** Combat Sports (12806) **8.00** Wrestling (25326) **9.00** Football (86993) **10.30** Football (99210) **12.00-12.30am** News (82253)

SKY SOAP
8.00am Loving (4189581) **8.30** Peyton Place (4188852) **9.00** As the World Turns (4394210) **10.00** Guiding Light (9698697) **11.00-12.00** Another World (9774061)

SKY TRAVEL
12.00 Getaway — Australia (4199968) **12.30pm** Zoo Life with Jack Hanna (1488622) **1.00** Cruising the Globe (9785177) **1.30** Cook Italian (1487993) **2.00** California's Gold (7041516) **2.30** Florida (4814622) **3.00** Journey to Australia's Inland Sea (4796887) **4.00** Sky Travel Guide (4805974) **4.30** Zoo Life (4801158) **5.00** Ski Perfect (7969968) **5.30** Cook Italian (4712210) **6.00** Australia (4815351) **6.30** Bavaria (4806803) **7.00** American Vacation (5777790) **8.00** Around the World (7958852) **8.30** Sky Travel Guide (7040887) **9.00** Australia (4703806) **9.30** Round Trip — Bavaria (1475158) **10.00** American Vacation (5776061) **11.00** Ski Perfect (4708351) **11.30-12.00** California's Gold (4330158)



Dame Edith Evans as Lady Bracknell (UK Gold, 12.30am)

TLC
9.00am Successful Sugarcraft (2979784) **9.30** A Taste of Japan (5180500) **10.00** Jimmy's (2081158) **10.30** Only Human (1342061) **11.30** Inside Crime (2216023) **12.00** Private Lives (2082448) **12.30pm** Park High (5264516) **1.00** A Taste of Japan (8642622) **1.30** Successful Sugarcraft (5263887) **2.00** You and Your Dog (2082887) **3.00** Secret Gardens (2050784) **3.30-4.00** Furniture to Go (1022500)

UK GOLD
7.00am Give Us a Clue (8549581) **7.30** Neighbours (8531516) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (2061719) **8.30** EastEnders (2053790) **9.00** The Bill (2971142) **9.30** Colditz (6990326) **10.30** Angels (1351719) **11.30** Terry and June (6997111) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (2064806) **12.30pm** Neighbours (5266974) **1.00** EastEnders (8548852) **1.30** The Bill (5265245) **2.00** Father, Dear Father (2146535) **2.30** I Didn't Know You Cared (1029413) **3.00** Knots Landing (7387677) **4.00** Dallas (8812662) **5.00** Every Second Counts (9834806) **5.35** The Dick Emery Show (6283626) **6.50** Hi-De-Hi (4920535) **6.30** EastEnders (1117622) **7.00** The Two Ronnies (9740652) **8.00** I Didn't Know You Cared (2053871) **8.30** Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em (2145806) **9.00** Minder (9842264) **10.00** The Bill (2065535) **10.30** Top of the Pops (7756790) **11.10** Carrott Confidential (2235535) **12.00** Dr Who (3468291) **12.30am** FILM: The Importance of Being Earnest (1952) (1298104) **2.00** Shopping at Night (5593611)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL
6.00am Sesame Street (6033055) **6.55** Garfield (7673429) **7.25** Eek the Cat (6654790) **7.55** Degrassi Junior High (4338582) **8.25** Super Mario Brothers (4513516) **8.45** Casper (1729719) **9.00** Sesame Street (19993) **10.00** It's Droibee Time (98887) **12.00** Garfield (63603) **12.30pm** Eek the Cat (16239) **1.00** Beverly Hills Teens (59535) **1.30** Super Mario Brothers (83600245) **1.45** Baby Follies (83526500) **2.00** Barney (6500) **2.30** Babar (7142) **3.00** Casper and Friends (1842264) **3.15** Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventures (134516) **3.45** Sonic the Hedgehog (133887) **4.15** Head to Head in 3D (1448887) **4.30-5.00** California Dreams (2846)

NICKELODEON
7.00am Nickalive! (4651697) **7.15** Rude Dog (245061) **7.45** Rugrats (244332) **8.15** Nicktoons (339974) **8.45** Nickalive! (8459264) **9.00** Nick Jr (945142) **12.00** Where on Earth is Carmen San Diego? (32719) **12.30pm** The Muppet Show (78055) **1.00** Smoggies (24264) **1.30** Galaxy High School (77326) **2.00** Alvin and the Chipmunks (1734) **2.30** Henry's Cat (7516) **3.00** Grimmy (6581) **3.30** Where on Earth is Carmen San Diego? (2061) **4.00** Rude Dog (5868) **4.30** Rugrats (4852) **5.00** Clarissa (8326) **5.30** Nickalive! (1332) **6.00** Doug (8245) **6.30-7.00** Secret of the Stones (8697)

DISCOVERY
4.00pm Dolphins (3392624) **5.00** Around Whicker's World (91283887) **6.05** Beyond 2000 (4445500) **7.00** From Monkeys to Apes (2148993) **7.30** An African Ride (1111448) **8.00** History's Mysteries (2051413) **8.30** World of Adventures (2143449) **9.00** Special Forces (4212806) **9.30** Those Who Dare (5171852) **10.00** Search for Adventure (9843993) **11.00** Paramedics (3262103) **11.30-12.00** The Global Family (2907142)

BRAVO
12.00 FILM: *I Live in Grosvenor Square* (1945). A duke's daughter falls in love with an American airman. Stars Anna Neagle (2098448) **2.00pm** thirtysomething (2906413) **3.00** Rat Patrol (2047210) **3.30** Hogan's Heroes (1026326) **4.00** FILM: SOS Titanic (1979) (2058326) **6.00** Get Smart (1015210) **6.30** FILM: Cone of Silence (1960) (6024993) **8.00** thirtysomething (9751968) **9.00** The Twilight Zone (4117054) **9.30** FILM: Puberty Blues (1981) (5826806) **11.30-12.00** Hogan's Heroes (2901968)

UK LIVING
6.00am Agony Hour (6020516) **7.00** Living Magazine (8538974) **8.00** The Treatment (3580595) **8.30** Rendezvous (4990036) **9.00** Go for It (5289528) **9.30** Kate and Allie (7232142) **10.05** Now You See It (1283018) **10.30** Susan Powter (3384992) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (7049423) **12.00** Entertaining on a Plate (8402719) **12.35pm** Rendezvous (48116697) **1.05** Kilroy (8189142) **2.00** Agony Hour (1912790) **3.00** Living Magazine (7545852) **3.45** Gladrags (65045697) **4.00** Infatuation (9162871) **4.30** Crosswits (9168055) **5.00** Masterchef (3391968) **5.35** The New Mr and Mrs Show (7071448) **6.05** Susan Powter (8304622) **6.30** Brookside (9163500) **7.00** Living Magazine (9785974) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (9794622) **9.00** FILM: The Gift of Life (1982): A mother of two decides to become a surrogate. With Susan Dey (98112177) **10.55** Sneak Scenes (8346582) **11.00** Brookside (1484852) **11.30-12.00** Infatuation UK (1917245)

FAMILY CHANNEL
5.00pm Dangermouse (7852) **5.30** Mighty Jungle (1158) **6.00** The Black Stallion (260142) **6.25** All Clued Up (867055) **7.00** Trivial Pursuit — The Sequel (2036) **7.30** My Two Dads (1535) **8.00** Christy (65968) **9.00** Moonlighting (41332) **10.00** Family Catchphrase (64332) **10.30** GP (77852) **11.00** Lou Grant (63784) **12.00** Rhoda (24253) **12.30am** Big Brother Jake (12920) **1.00** Dangermouse (80758) **1.30** Trivial Pursuit (37901) **2.00** Moonlighting (76562) **3.00** Lou Grant (30907) **4.00** Rhoda (98659) **4.30-5.00** Big Brother Jake (15291)

MTV
5.00am Wildside (62543) **6.30** The Grind (38500) **7.00** Wildside (69806) **8.00** VJ Ingo (939061) **11.00** Soul (57177) **12.00** Greatest Hits (93332) **1.00pm** Snowball (13245) **3.00** Sports (7103) **3.30** Report (9120023) **3.45** Cinematic (4170528) **4.00** News (1450622) **4.15** 3 From 1 (1440245) **4.30** Dial MTV (2264) **5.00** Music Non-Stop (72055) **6.30** The Pulse (1581) **7.00** Greatest Hits (54806) **8.00** Most Wanted (87852) **9.30** Beavis and Butt-Head (94061) **10.00** Report (830326) **10.15** Cinematic (326581) **10.30** News (638603) **10.45** 3 from 1 (633158) **11.00** The End? (11581) **1.00am** Soul (50901) **2.00** The Grind (81415) **2.30** Videos

VH-1
7.00am Crawling from the Wreckage (9784448) **9.00** Café VH-1 (8926210) **12.00** The Bridge (1476887) **1.00pm** VH-1 to 1 (9787535) **1.30** Ten of the Best (9401332) **2.30** Heart and Soul (3408210) **3.30** Into the Music (8430041) **6.00** Prime Cuts (1392871) **7.00** VH-1 for You (5786448) **8.00** VH-1 Rock (5689968) **9.00** Ten of the Best (5775332) **10.00** The Bridge (4307784) **11.30** The Nightfly (9776974) **2.00am** Ten of the Best (8172104) **3.00** Dawn Patrol

CMT EUROPE
Country music from **8am** to **7pm**, including at **5.00** Saturday Nite Dance Ranch **6.00-7.00** Big Ticket

ZEE TV
7.00am Asian Morning (80328158) **8.30** Fata Fut (75634326) **9.00** Movie (84905803) **12.00** Tara (75638142) **12.30pm** Chakravyuha (81658516) **1.00** FILM (29893974) **4.00** Top Ten (34235264) **5.00** Teer Kaman (92208535) **5.30** Dak Ghar (78575719) **6.00** Yeh Hai Bombay Meri Jaan (78565332) **6.30** Janam Daata (78489784) **7.00** Ver Ver Pariver (92115871) **7.30** Dillagi (78489968) **8.00** News (92204719) **8.30** Andaz (92110326) **9.00** India Business Review (34231448) **9.30** Pakistan Business Update (81565852) **10.00** Zee Horror Show (75639871) **10.30** Sa Re Ga Ma (75728719) **11.00** Havell (34236993) **11.30-12.00** Wah Janaab (10165061)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT
Continuous cartoons from 5am to 7pm, then TNT films as below.
Theme: Spotlight on Gene Kelly
7.00pm Invitation to the Dance (1957) (16558993) **9.00 The Happy Road** (1957) (78082158) **11.00 Crest of the Wave** (1954) (91018993) **12.40am Living in a Big Way** (1947) (57735291) **2.35-5.00 The Devil Makes Three** (1952) (47658524)

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SPORT

New recruit may miss season's start

Mansell feels the squeeze with McLaren

BY OLIVER HOLT

THE McLaren Formula One motor racing team admitted last night that its new recruit, Nigel Mansell, may be forced to miss the first two races of the grand prix season while a new chassis is built for him. Mark Blundell, a former McLaren test driver, and Martin Brundle, who drove for the team last year, are the favourites to replace him.

Mansell, the 1992 world champion, signed for McLaren in a blaze of publicity last month, but it soon became apparent during testing in Portugal that the cockpit of the team's new car was too small for him and was causing him so much discomfort that it was inhibiting his ability to record fast times.

The team said at the time it was just a matter of fine-tuning but yesterday, amid feverish activity at its factory in Woking, new information emerged. The team will decide later this week whether the existing car can be modified to accommodate Mansell or whether the alterations needed are so extensive that they would prejudice its safety.

It would take the team a month to six weeks to build a new chassis, ruling Mansell, 41, out of the first two races of the season in Brazil, on March 26, and Argentina, on April 9. That would be a severe blow to his hopes of playing a part in the championship race and an embarrassment for McLaren and its new engine partners, Mercedes.

"The idea is for Nigel to test again in the second half of the week," a McLaren spokesman said last night. "There is only so much one can do to a tub and if we feel the safety aspect of the car is being compromised by the changes we will have to grasp the nettle and say it may be better to build a new one. There is a problem and we are addressing it.

"But it may be that the alterations are sufficient and Nigel can drive it immediately. It may be that he will drive the existing car in the first two races while a new one is being made. Nothing has been decided yet. Blundell is somebody who is being talked about as a temporary replacement. He would be a strong candidate because, if someone is going to drive the car for a couple of races, you want an experienced guy in there."

Mansell, who was originally scheduled to return to the Estoril track in Portugal on Tuesday, returned to the Isle of Man from his golf club in Devon last night without commenting on his situation. His car stayed at Woking and his team-mate, Mika Hakkinen, who earlier described driving the car as "running the London Marathon with shoes that are too small", continued testing in Portugal.


Mansell: discomfort

The car was built with Hakkinen's lithe build in mind and its designers may also have anticipated that David Coulthard would be his partner, not Mansell, who was a last-minute signing. If they do decide to build a new car for Mansell, who is 5ft 9in and 12st, they will have to scrap however many they have constructed for him already and conduct stringent crash tests on the new one. It is likely to cost more than £1 million.

Blundell, who had been contemplating a long, hard season trying to force his way back into Formula One after being dropped by Tyrrell, is thought to have spent yesterday at Woking. He was already discussing the idea of doing some test driving for McLaren and was planning to go to Brazil "so people don't forget me".

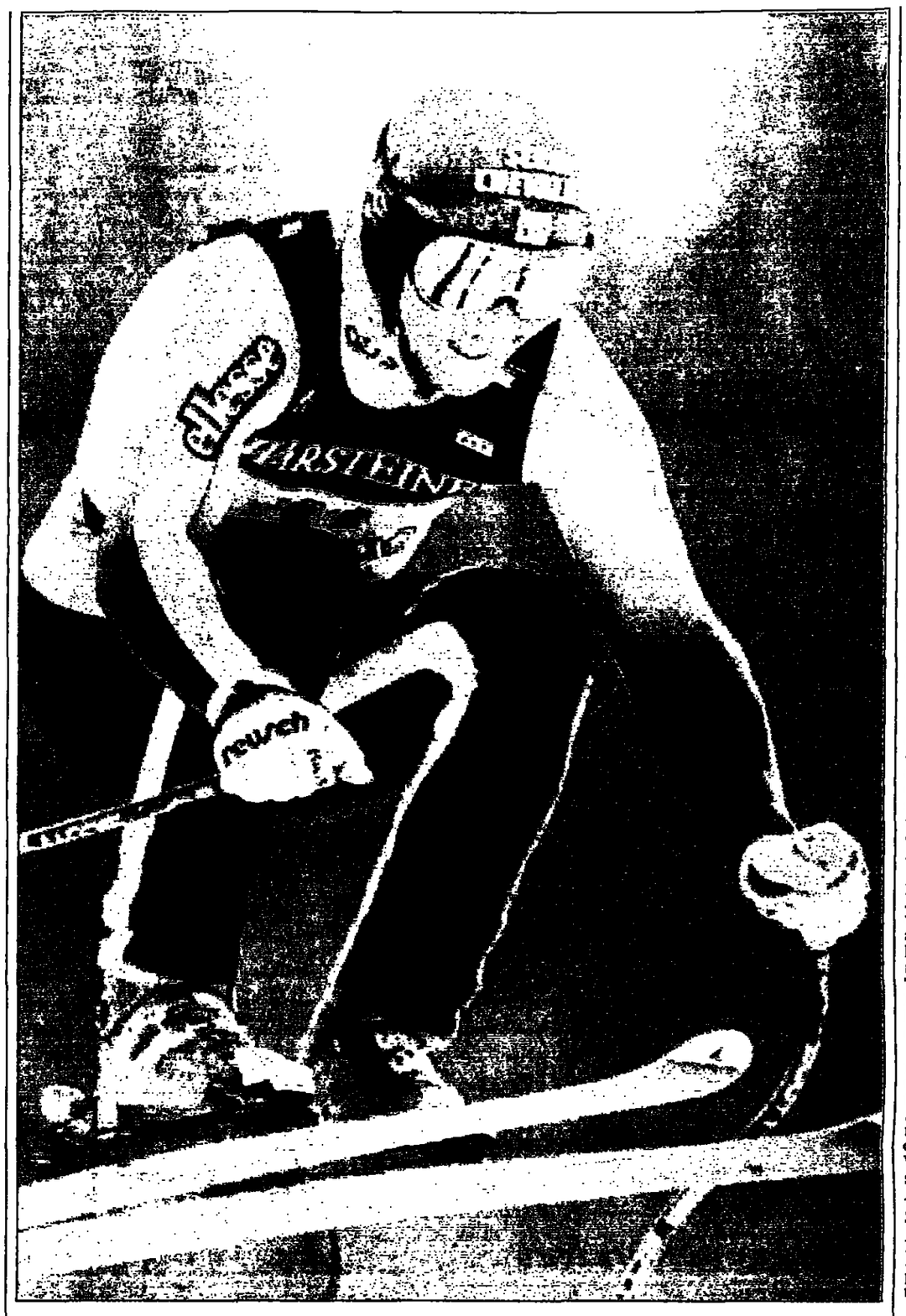
He may get an opportunity sooner than he anticipated and the irony of his situation will not be lost on him. Two days ago, he said: "I've had offers from IndyCars, British touring cars and GT racing and I have turned them down because I am focused on returning to Formula One.

"I don't want to block the situation if an opportunity should arise. I'm still only 28 and at the end of it all someone will have to say 'well we can't overlook someone like that; it's not right'. For too long I've been in the right place at the wrong time."

His chief rival may be Brundle, who will drive for Ligier this season but only after Aguri Suzuki has competed for an unspecified number of grands prix at the start of the year to satisfy the team's engine suppliers, Mugen-Honda. The Norfolk-based driver would be free to compete in the first two races, but said last night he had not been in contact with McLaren.

At Estoril this week, Damon Hill has continued to show the potential of the Williams-Renault, setting the fastest time in testing of 1min 21.66sec. He bettered the time of Michael Schumacher, the world champion, in a Benetton-Renault of 1:22.29.

The Arrows team was yesterday testing its high-tech FA16 car, which features a McLaren-style raised nose and a hand-controlled clutch system, at Silverstone. Gianni Morbidelli, the Italian, and Taki Inoue, of Japan, are the drivers.



LUC ALPHAND, of France, glides in style on his way to winning the men's downhill at Bormio, Italy, yesterday and capturing the downhill World Cup title.

Alberto Tomba won Alpine skiing's overall World Cup title yesterday from the comfort of home as Marc Girardelli failed to secure the downhill win needed to keep the contest alive. Picabo Street, of the United States, already crowned downhill queen, claimed her sixth victory this season.

"I dedicate this victory to all my fans but I also want to spare a thought for Thomas Fogdoe," Tomba said after watching the race at home on television. Fogdoe, of Sweden, one of Tomba's slalom rivals, does not know whether he will be able to walk again after incurring a back injury in training.

Tomba has an unassailable lead of 350 points over Jure Kosir, of Slovenia, in the overall standings, with Girardelli a further 30 points adrift.

Results from Bormio, page 35

Arsenal ready to risk injured Seaman

FROM ROB HUGHES
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT
IN AUXERRE

TONIGHT, in this proud Burgundy town which gave us the mixed blessing of Eric Cantona, Arsenal will seek to emulate Chelsea in restoring England's reputation in the Cup Winners' Cup.

Arsenal are, of course, the holders of this trophy, but George Graham has gone, the certainty of Arsenal's obdurate away defending has waned and if the club is indeed to join its London neighbours in the semi-finals, it may have to take risks and depend heavily on David Seaman.

The goalkeeper has a hairline fracture of the rib. When he had a similar injury earlier in the season, it required six weeks of rest; tonight, there is apparently nothing that medical science can do for him. It is all down to courage.

On arrival here, the goalkeeper took matters into his own hands. "It would be a risk — I haven't been able to dive and the rib is very sore, but it cannot get any worse," he said. Therefore the gamble seems to be on and, barring a change of heart today, Seaman will play.

In attack, Ian Wright will probably be partnered by John Hartson. Their force and their guile will be measured against a French defence that has been strengthened since the 1-1 draw at Highbury. Taribo West, the raw young Nigerian, is suspended, but his replacement is the more composed Franck Silvestre.

However, Auxerre do have problems in converting their considerable pedigree into victories. They are the draw specialists of their nation, but the loss, through a broken leg, of the midfield player, Phillipe Violeau, is more than compensated for by the return of the Algeria international, Moussa Saib, who missed the first leg. There is a doubt over the participation of Corentin Martins, the slender, elegant playmaker, who has been troubled by a groin injury.

If Arsenal can weather pain and doubt, if they can score as well as at least draw, then the prospect of an all-England final in the competition would be a palliative for the country's besmirched name abroad.

Blind bookmaker, page 5
Chelsea's pride, page 35

Rowell fixes sights on new horizons

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

WHATEVER the outcome of the decisive meeting between England and Scotland in rugby union's five nations' championship at Twickenham on Saturday, Jack Rowell, the England manager, believes that his team has the ability and the players to conquer fresh fields.

"We can see further things to add to this team and the personnel in it, and the players see them too," Rowell, who is on the verge of a grand slam in his first full season in office, said. He acknowledged that his team is favoured to beat Scotland, the other unbeaten side in the championship, but said that England must come to terms with their status.

"I would like to think this England team can impose its skills and will on the opposition," he said. "If we are favourites for the right reasons, then let's accept that and change the English psyche. Everyone seems to think it's a good thing to go into a match as second favourites — I think that's nonsense."

England have gone through the championship with the same team, but, during training yesterday, Graham Dawe, the replacement hooker, was carried off with a strained calf muscle. Mark Regan and Richard Cockerill, England's next two best hookers, are on the far side of the equator preparing with England A to play Natal in Durban, so, should Dawe withdraw, Gareth Adams, Dawe's deputy at Bath and one of England's emerging players, is likely to be called up.


Rowell: looking ahead

Meanwhile, there seems little prospect of the championship trophy being presented immediately after the final whistle, despite an appeal from the donor to that effect. Mike Davies, the businessman who also chairs the trust which looks after the trophy, has contacted Dennis Easby, the president of the Rugby Football Union, in the hope that the decision that the trophy should be presented during the official banquet on Saturday evening could be rescinded.

In the first year of its inception, the trophy was not presented formally to France because it could not be confirmed that they were champions until the result from Dublin became known later in the afternoon. Last year, Wales lost to England at Twickenham but then received the trophy from Her Majesty the Queen.

Now, when the outcome will be crystal clear, the refurbishment of Twickenham is in the way. VIPs, including the Princess Royal and Prince Edward, are temporarily housed in the southeast corner rather than in the presentation area in the west stand. "The Bowring Bowl [for the winners of the University match] was presented when the stand was even less finished last December," Davies said. "This is the people's trophy."

Andrew and work, page 14
Scots recall 1990, page 38

Maguire misses Cheltenham treble

BY RICHARD EVANS
RACING CORRESPONDENT

THE hype and razzmatazz which inevitably surround top sporting occasions was put into perspective yesterday when Adrian Maguire announced that he would remain in Ireland after the funeral of his mother on Tuesday and not ride Barton Bank in the Tote Gold Cup at Cheltenham this afternoon.

The decision came as David Nicholson, the champion trainer who retains Maguire, sent out three winners on the second day of the Festival which, in normal events, would have been ridden by him. The 181-1 treble included Viking Flagship, who won the day's feature race, the Queen Elizabeth Champion Chase, for the second year running.

Maguire's understandable absence has added a sombre note to the three-day meeting and, after the success of Viking Flagship, Nicholson spoke for many. "I just feel very emotional that Adrian was not here riding Viking Flagship. I'm fearfully sorry for him. He's done all the hard work with the horse over the last two years and, on his day of glory, he couldn't ride him. I just hope Adrian's all right."

Barton Bank, who fell at the final fence of the King George VI Chase at Kempton on Boxing Day when several lengths clear, will be ridden today by David Bridgwater, who served his apprenticeship with Lester Piggott. Kim Bailey and Norman Williamson, the trainer and jockey of Alderbrook, winner of the Champion Hurdle on Tuesday, will attempt to complete a rare double with Master Oats, the probable favourite.

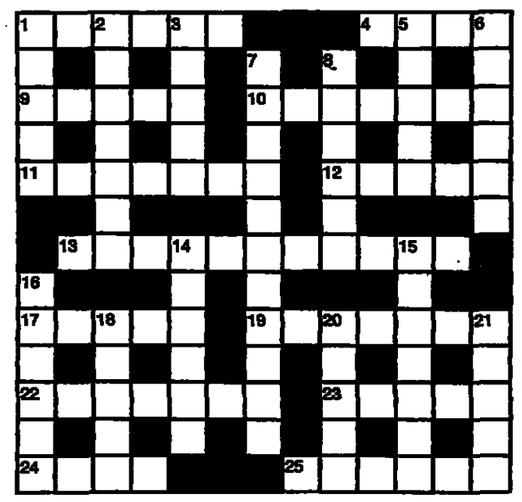
While the strong Irish challenge was rewarded with its third success of the meeting yesterday when Chance Coffey won the Coral Cup, there were some serious backers out of pocket last night after Harcon, one of the Irish bankers of the meeting, finished second in the Sun Alliance Chase.

Jim Dreaper's chaser was backed to take nearly £300,000 out of the ring in large bets alone, including two wagers of £70,000 to £40,000 and one of £35,000 to £20,000. The race was won by Brief Gale, a 7-1 shot trained by Josh Gifford and a first Festival winner for his young jockey, Philip Hide.

Perhaps, the heavy losers will be tempted today by the Tote Jackpot, not won on the first two days of the Festival. With £142,510 carried forward, the pool is likely to exceed £250,000 today. To scoop all or part of the pool, a backer must select the winners of the first six races — almost as easy as winning the Lottery.

Master Oats fancied, page 36
Viking Flagship's double, page 37

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 421

ACROSS

1 Informal garment (1-5)
4 Precisely (2,1,1)
9 Pungent, bitter (5)
10 Disorganised, erratic (7)
11 Hard to trap (7)
12 Short vowel mark; long mus. note (5)
13 Walk around (11)
17 Repugnance (5)
19 Festive state (7)
22 Bird, noted thief (7)
23 Largest Greek island (5)
24 Disguise for face (4)
25 Abused; on (US) candidates list (6)

DOWN

1 Make fun of (5)
2 Hairy (7)
3 Lines from centre to rim (5)
5 Hold forth with view (5)
6 Wobble (6)
7 Closely linked (5,2,4)
8 Instrument for clashing (6)
14 Spanish invasion fleet (6)
15 Divide equally into three (7)
16 What the Snark really was (6)
18 Anvil bone of ear (5)
20 Nearby; pub (5)
21 Give way; produce (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 420

ACROSS: 1 Judges 5 Ides 9 Genesis 10 Samuel 11 Julienne 12 Savant 15 Tomtit 18 Objector 20 Number 22 Mongrel 23 Ruth 24 Helots

DOWN: 2 Unglue 3 Gunfight 4 Susan 6 Doom 7 Screen 8 Assess 13 Visceral 14 Stormy 16 Ocular 17 Job lot 19 Jonah 21 Bolt

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